

72

7-58

Massachusetts.

First—Twelfth annual Reports
of the Trustees of the State Reform
School at Westborough: Together with
the annual Reports of the Officers of the
Institution. 1847-1858.

Boston 1847-1858-



364M3

8792

1847-58

A

SENATE.....

.....No. 1.

DOCUMENTS

RELATING TO THE


STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

SENATE

DOCUMENTS

RELATIVE TO THE

STATE REFORM SCHOOL





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2013



J.H. Bufford's Lith. Boston.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL AT WESTBOROUGH.

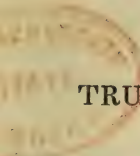


SENATE....No. 7.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

THE Trustees of the State Reform School, at this season of annual reports, would present to the governor and council the following statements, which will show that but little has been done, or could be done, during the past year, in the performance of the duties which will devolve upon them under their appointment.

Soon after that appointment they held a meeting at West-boro', and, after completing their organization, appointed three of their number to have the care and management of the farm during the season. At a subsequent meeting, one of their number was designated to act as treasurer until such an officer should be duly appointed under the authority given by the legislature. The report of the treasurer, which will accompany this, will show the present financial condition of the establishment, and the result of our farming operations during the past year.

It should, however, be stated, that these farming operations could not be commenced until the beginning of May, two months after the arrangements of all judicious agriculturists

should be made, and that all articles for use were to be procured, and engagements for labor to be made, a full month after much of the work should have been accomplished. The employment of nearly one hundred men in the erection of the building will satisfy the practical farmer that no facilities were thereby afforded for increasing the productiveness of the farm. It is due, however, to the commissioners, the superintendent, and the contractor, to say, that no effort on their part has been spared to diminish the evils arising from this incumbrance. A high state of cultivation is not one of the attractive features of the farm. In this respect much yet remains to be done. Under all these circumstances, we feel satisfied in being able to state, that the value of the implements, stock, and produce, on hand, is sufficient to cover the amount expended, leaving the Commonwealth without charge on account of these operations at the close of the first year.

It will be necessary to build, during the ensuing season, a farm-house and a barn, the present barn being unfit to be removed to the proper location, and otherwise insufficient for our purpose. Some other out-buildings will also be required, and some of those now on the premises must be removed to a more convenient location. A considerable addition to the stock and to the farming utensils will be needed, to enable us to manage the farm to the best advantage. For these several purposes, the sum of *eight thousand dollars* will be wanted.

The same benevolent individual, whose bounty has already contributed ten thousand dollars to the foundation of this charitable establishment, now offers another sum of *ten thousand dollars*, provided the State will make a similar appropriation, to form a permanent fund, the income of which is to be applied, under the supervision of the trustees, to such purposes as they, in their discretion, shall direct. It is for the legislature to say, whether they will secure to the institution this gift, so liberally proffered, by an appropriation on their part which shall meet the requirements of the donor.

The progress which has already been made in the erection of the building, under the care of the commissioners, warrants the belief that it will be completed and ready to be occupied before

another meeting of the legislature,—probably by the first of October next. It therefore becomes necessary, at this time, to ask the appropriations that will be required to carry into effect the benevolent intentions of the government for the coming year. For the quarterly salary of the officers, which, in this contingency, will become due at the close of the year, and for needful provisions and clothing for the children who may be received there, we think the sum of *two thousand dollars* will be needed, and we accordingly request an appropriation of this amount, for these purposes, by the present legislature.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By direction of the board,
THOS. A. GREENE,

Secretary.

Boston, Jan. 12th, 1848.

To His Excellency GEORGE N. BRIGGS, *Governor, and to the Honorable Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :*

THE Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents his First Annual Report :

NOVEMBER 30th, 1847.

The Treasurer charges himself as follows :

For amount received for butter and milk,	\$196 43
“ “ “ fruit,	37 17
“ “ “ one yoke oxen,	111 00
“ “ “ three cows,	95 00
“ “ “ pork,	24 96
“ “ “ hay and grass,	31 80
Balance to new account,	1,379 31
	<hr/>
	\$1,875 67

He credits himself as follows :

For payments for stock,	\$684 10
“ “ “ farming implements,	423 40
“ “ “ labor and board,	555 75
“ “ “ hay and grain, &c.,	126 83
Miscellaneous,	84 49
	<hr/>
	\$1,875 67

The item, stock, includes—

two yoke oxen, ten cows, four swine, \$684 10

Hay, &c.

Hay, 77, corn, 19 90, potatoes, 14 09, herds- }	126 83
grass and clover seed, 10 76, salt, 5 08, }	

Miscellaneous.

Shoeing oxen, &c.,	\$11 27
Paint, 2 42, use of cart and plow, 4,	6 42
One cask lime, 1 12, veterinary surgeon, 4,	5 12

Expense driving cattle,	\$6 54
Trustees' expenses,	33 20
Shingles, glass, padlocks, hinges, ox-	
balls, nails, lantern, brushes, cards,	
butts, screws, twine, whip, strainer	
cloth, memorandum books, &c. &c.	21 94——84 49

Farming Implements.

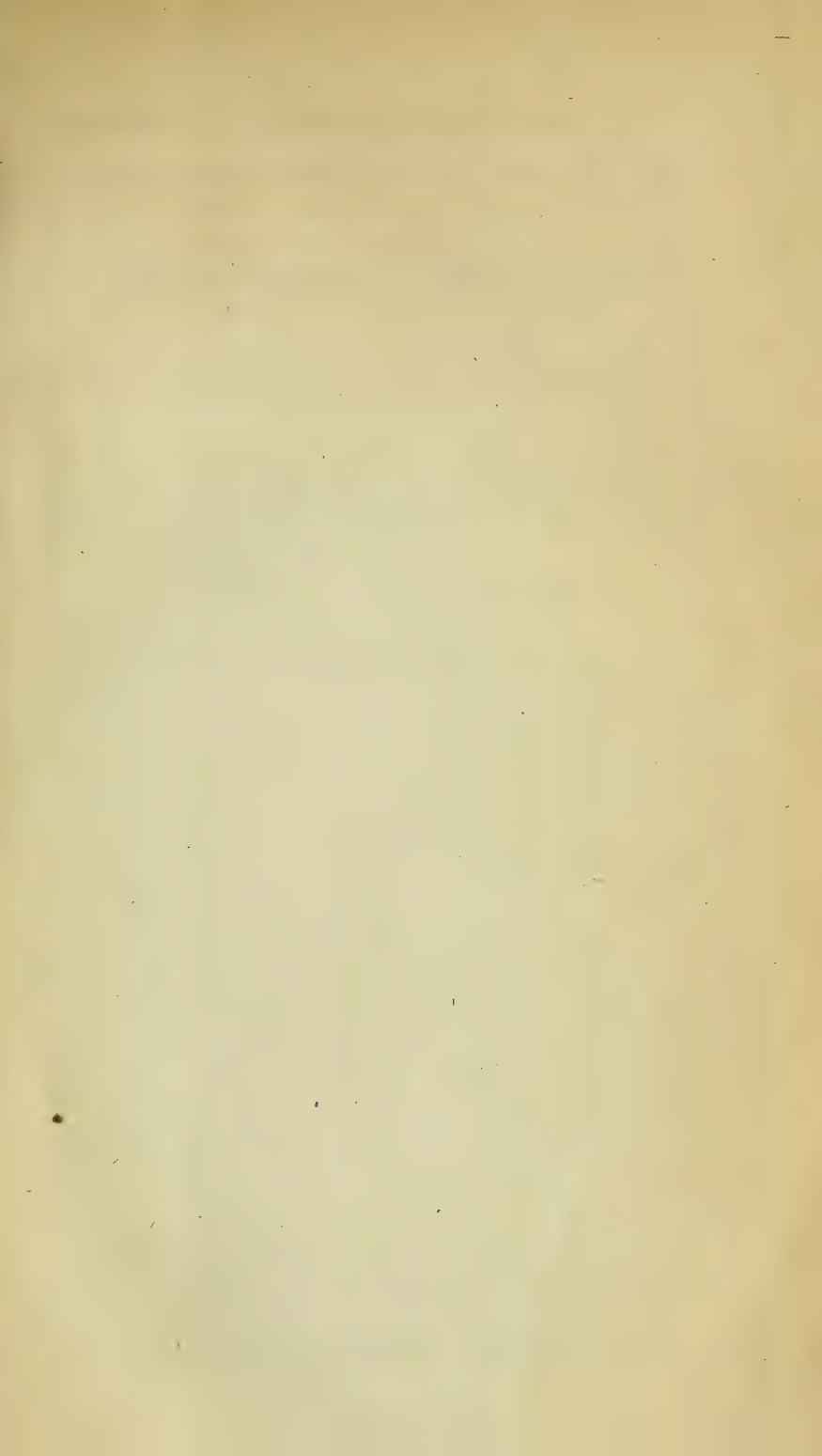
1 ox wagon, 2 ox carts, hay and horse	
carts, 1 wheelbarrow,	292 00
1 harrow, 1 plow, 1 cultivator, 4 shovels,	
1 ditching spade,	33 50
12 tie-up chains, 2 draft chains,	10 34
6 hay forks, 2 manure forks,	7 82
1 hay knife, 3 hoes, 4 iron bars,	11 15
2 picks, 1 iron rake, 6 wood rakes,	4 92
5 scythes and snaiths,	7 59
3 ox yokes, 1 stone drag, 1 stone hammer,	20 33
1 hay hook, 5 whetstones, 5 rifles,	1 84
1 set wooden measures, 1 tin gallon, do.	1 38
7 pails, 2 tubs, 30 milk-pans,	9 26
5 baskets, 7 meal-bags, 1 shave,	5 99
1 plow harness, 2 hammers and wrench,	11 99
1 well-rope, 30 empty casks,	4 79——423 40
Labor, &c., includes all the labor and	
board of help on the farm,	556 85

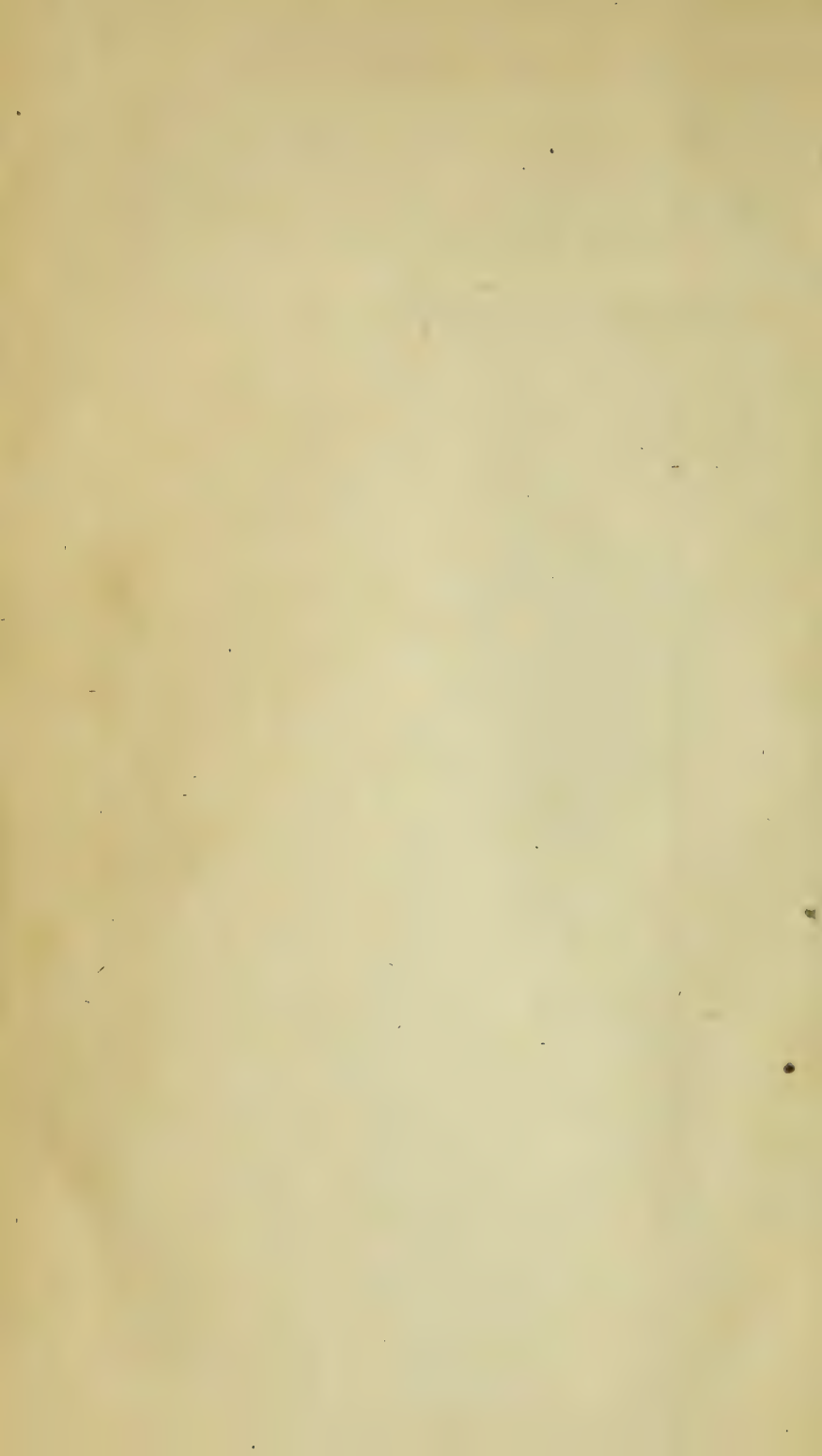
The money appropriated by the legislature for the purposes of the farm has not been called for. One thousand dollars has been received from Hon. A. D. Foster, being the balance remaining in his hands of the liberal donation, by an unknown individual, which is to be expended for improvements, and the treasurer charges himself with that sum, \$1,000 00 and credits himself with amount paid for trees, &c., 178 14

Leaving balance to new account of this fund, \$821 86

Boston, Dec. 7th, 1847. The subscriber, as a committee to audit the accounts of George Denny, Esq., as he is treasurer of the State Reform School, certifies that he has examined the same, and finds that they are fully vouched and correctly cast, and that the balances are properly carried forward to new account.

WILLIAM T. ANDREWS.





Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Trustees of the State Reform School, in compliance with the provisions of the statute, respectfully present to the Governor and Council their

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

The present Superintendent, Wm. R. Lincoln, Esq., commenced his duties in July last. The farming operations, and the preparing and laying out of the grounds, were conducted under his supervision, until the first of November, when the building was in readiness for the reception of pupils, and the more important and responsible duties of his station were then entered upon. For the details of his operations during the brief period which has since elapsed, we would refer to his report which accompanies this.

We concur in his opinion of the importance of a well selected library, for the use of the boys, to be improved as an auxiliary means in promoting their reformation, and would commend it to the attention of the Legislature, and of the benevolent and liberal, who may be disposed to aid us in this particular. In this connection, we would express our acknowledgments to the Massachusetts Bible Society, for the donation of one hundred and twenty-seven Bibles, generously presented to this institution.

No Teacher or Chaplain has yet been regularly appointed, though the subject has claimed much of the attention and consideration of the Board. The duties of these stations have been supplied, thus far, by a temporary appointment.

A substantial and commodious barn has just been completed,

of dimensions, and at an expense, somewhat exceeding the original estimate. For the amount of this expenditure, we refer to the Treasurer's Report, which will be presented in connection with this.

Since our former report, an adjoining farm, which it was deemed by the Trustees desirable to secure for the benefit of this institution, has been purchased by our former benevolent, but unknown donor, and conveyed to them. Thus is the State indebted to him for the whole of the premises, now occupied by this establishment, at the cost of \$12,500. The Treasurer has also received from the same individual the sum of ten thousand dollars, which, in addition to the other ten thousand received from the State Treasury, according to the conditions prescribed by the giver, has been invested as a permanent fund of twenty thousand dollars, the income of which is to be expended at the discretion of the Trustees, for the benefit of this school.

The Trustees are desirous to call the attention of the judicial officers of the Commonwealth to the length of the time for which boys are to be committed to this institution. The great purpose of the government in establishing it is to place juvenile delinquents here, that, by right education and proper discipline, they may be reformed and restored to virtue and usefulness. To effect this object, we think they should be sent to continue here during their minority; that this was the intention of the framers of the law, and should be the rule of administering it, unless there should appear in the particular case some special reason for deviating from it. In some of the commitments already made, where the time for remaining here is the same as, or scarcely more than, that provided for the punishment in the alternative sentence, it seems to us that the intention of the law cannot be carried into full effect; that, before their good habits can be confirmed, they will be sent back to their former associates and temptations, and be liable to relapse into vice and wickedness again.

A meeting was convened at the institution, in Westboro', on the 7th inst., on which occasion an eloquent and appropriate address was delivered to the members of the government, and many other citizens assembled from the various portions of the

Commonwealth, by Emory Washburn, Esq., of Lowell. The Trustees believed that the opportunity should be improved to call the attention of their fellow-citizens to the purposes for which the institution was founded, and to strengthen their interest in its welfare. And they have the satisfaction of believing that, in some good degree, this object has been attained. They have procured a copy of the address for publication.

The amount of appropriations by the Legislature, for the purposes of this institution, during the last two years, which were placed at the disposal of the Trustees, has been nine thousand dollars. The expenditures have been \$10,721 17, leaving an indebtedness of \$1,721 17. To meet this deficiency—to supply provisions and clothing for the boys, and furniture for one hundred boys more, which, we are satisfied, will be needed in the course of the next year—to supply farming implements and stock—to pay salaries—to provide for improvements, removal and repairs of buildings—we think the sum of \$19,500 will be required for the ensuing year, and we accordingly ask that an appropriation for that amount be made by the Legislature at its ensuing session.

The short time which has elapsed since the institution commenced its operations forbids the expression of any opinion derived from our own experience of success; and we can only say, that it will be our earnest endeavor so to conduct its affairs, as far as they lie within our cognizance and control, that the hopes and wishes of the friends of humanity and enlightened legislation may not be disappointed.

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Trustees.

THOS. A. GREENE, *Secretary*.

WESTBORO', 12th mo. (Dec.) 27th, 1848.

*To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Executive
Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :*

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents
his Second Annual Report, for the year ending November
30th, 1848.

The Treasurer charges himself with	
sums received from the State Treas-	
ury,	\$9,000 00
And for proceeds of sales from the farm,	684 26
Balance to new account,	1,721 17
	<hr/>
	\$11,405 43
	<hr/> <hr/>

He credits himself with balance due

Nov. 30, 1847,	\$1,379 31
And for the following payments:—	
Expenses of Trustees for 1847,	173 08
Salaries and board,	842 43
Transferred from “ <i>improvement</i> ” account,	178 14
Trees,	15 00
Insurance,	23 69
Coal, 30 tons,	160 20
Barn, in part,	3,722 89
10 cows, 6 oxen, 1 bull, and 12 steers,	1,408 50
Horse, carriage, and harness,	265 00
Transportation,	52 27
Clothing,	321 70
Books,	56 04
Grass seed and corn,	100 19
Farming implements,	301 48
Provisions,	130 64
Repairs,	97 41
Labor on the farm,	610 30
Expenses of Trustees for 1848,	214 76
Building Reservoir,	272 37

Labor, excavating, blasting, and removing stone and laying wall,	\$764 15
Derrick,	160 69
Miscellaneous,	155 19
	<hr/> \$11,405 43

The Treasurer charges himself with the balance of the fund for permanent improvement, created by the donation of an unknown individual,	821 86
Also, amount transferred to general account,	178 14
And amount received from the same unknown individual, for the purchase of additional land,	2,500 00
	<hr/> \$3,500 00

And credits himself with amount paid for land,	3,500 00
	<hr/>

He charges himself with the sum received from the same unknown donor,	10,000 00
And the same amount received from the Treasury of the Commonwealth,	10,000 00
	<hr/> \$20,000 00

Which amount was invested, when received, as a *Trust Fund*, on which has accrued, but not due, \$375.

GEORGE DENNY.

WESTBORO', 27th Dec. 1848.

Westboro', 27th Dec. 1848.

I hereby certify, that I have examined the above account and statement of the Treasurer of the Westboro' Farm School, and have found the same to be correct, and that the evidences of the property in his hands were exhibited to me.

WILLIAM T. ANDREWS,

Auditing Commissioner.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School, the Superintendent respectfully reports :

The number of boys admitted from the opening of the Institution, on the first day of November, to December 1st, 1848,	23
Rejected, after trial, as improper subject,	1
Remaining in the house, Dec. 1st, 1848,	22
They were received, from Suffolk county,	11
“ “ “ Middlesex “	9
“ “ “ Essex “	3
	23

Nativity.

Natives of Massachusetts,	8
“ “ New Hampshire,	1
“ “ Pennsylvania,	1
“ “ Canada,	3
“ “ Ireland,	9
“ “ England,	1
	23

Born in the United States, 10; in Foreign Countries, 13.

Their Ages.

1 was 11 years old.
 3 were 12 “ “
 4 “ 13 “ “
 9 “ 14 “ “
 3 “ 15 “ “
 1 was 16 “ “
 1 “ 18 “ “
 1 unknown.

Causes of Commitment.

Larceny,	10
Breaking and entering, with intent to steal,	2
Breaking dwelling-house and larceny,	2
Idle and dissolute,	3
Indecent assault,	1
Having obscene books for circulation,	1
Stubbornness,	4
	—
	23

Duration of Commitments.

9 during minority.

4 for 5 years.

4 " 3 "

4 " 2 "

2 " 1 "

—
23

But one month having elapsed since the opening of the Institution for the reception of boys, it is not yet fully organized in all its departments.

All the boys are employed, during a portion of the day, at some mechanical, agricultural, or domestic labor.

As many are employed on the farm as can be properly disciplined and instructed there. The remaining part at some mechanical labor, or in the various domestic duties of the house.

The washing, ironing, and cooking, are done by the boys. They also make and mend their own clothes.

Their daily routine, as at present established, is as follows :—

Rise at 5 or 5½ o'clock, according to the season of the year—and, after attending to their morning duties, repair to the school room, where they attend the religious exercises of the morning. Breakfast at 6 or 6½ o'clock; labor from 7 to 10; school from that time to 12; then one hour for play and dinner; commence work again at 1, and work till 4, when they have another hour

for play and supper. From 5 to 7 is for school, and from then till their bed-time, is for the examination of the misdemeanors of the day, moral instruction, and devotional exercises.

By the above arrangement, four hours are devoted to school, six to labor, eight and one half to sleep, and five and one half to recreation and miscellaneous duties.

Our discipline is, as far as possible, parental in its character—mild and persuasive, but firm and decided.

The design of the institution being to *reform*, rather than punish offenders, we shall use all means consistent with good government to secure the contentment and happiness of the youth who may be sent here, believing this to be the most effectual means of accomplishing the great end sought for, in the establishment of the institution.

Religious services are regularly conducted in the chapel, on the morning and afternoon of each Sabbath.

A judiciously selected library, of suitable books for the boys, is much needed at the commencement of the school, as a most valuable auxiliary in accomplishing their reformation.

The Massachusetts Bible Society has kindly furnished us with one hundred twenty-seven Bibles.

In addition to the cultivation of the farm, much has been done in clearing the stone from the ground in front of the building. Also, in constructing a large reservoir to receive the drainage from the house, in which a bed of manure will be collected for enriching the farm. A road has been constructed to approach the house from the public highway. Also, a large barn, 132 feet by 44 feet, with a shed and granary of 50 feet by 16 feet, attached, has been built.

The above, with other items of a similar nature, has prevented us from doing so much in the cultivation of the farm as we hope to do hereafter.

The following are the principal productions of the farm :—

48 tons	English hay,
23 "	meadow "
2½ "	oat straw,
4 "	corn fodder,
194	bushels potatoes,
200 "	corn,
100 "	oats,
6 "	dry beans,
146 "	English turnips,
30	barrels apples,
4,244½	gallons milk,
2,885	lbs. beef.

The live stock now on the farm consists of :—

14	cows,
6	oxen,
1	bull,
8	steers,
3	heifers,
6	calves,
1	horse,
12	swine.

Respectfully submitted,

W. R. LINCOLN, *Superintendent.*

B Y - L A W S
FOR THE
GOVERNMENT AND REGULATION
OF THE
S T A T E R E F O R M S C H O O L ,
AT WESTBOROUGH.

CHAPTER I.

OF THE TRUSTEES.

SECTION 1.—The Board of Trustees shall be organized as soon as may be, after the annual appointment of the members, at a meeting to be called by the Trustee who is first named in the commission of the Governor, at which meeting one of the Trustees shall be appointed Chairman and another Secretary of the Board, and three of the Trustees shall be appointed an executive committee. In case of the death, sickness, or absence, of the Trustee first named in the commission of the Governor, the next named Trustee shall perform the duties of the first, until the Board, at its next following meeting, shall make an appointment of chairman.

SECT. 2.—The chairman shall call meetings of the Board as often as he may deem the same expedient, or whenever requested so to do by any two Trustees. He shall preside at all meetings, and shall be the organ of the Board in receiving and preparing all communications in relation to its concerns.

SECT. 3.—The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Board, and shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, all documents, statements, and notices, which may be directed by the Board or by the Chairman. He shall give notice, in writing, to each Trustee, of

the time and place of all meetings of the Board. He shall communicate to the Treasurer all the proceedings of the Board relating to the financial concerns of the institution.

SECT. 4.—The quarterly visitations of the school shall be made in connection with the meetings of the Board. A meeting of the Board shall be held in the months of December, March, June, and September, and otherwise in conformity to such arrangements as the Board may, from time to time, adopt.

CHAPTER II.

OFFICERS.

SECT. 1.—The following officers shall be appointed by the Trustees, viz :—A Superintendent, a Steward, a Chaplain and Teacher, a Matron, Watchman, and such assistants as may be found necessary, also a Treasurer of the Board.

SECT. 2.—The several officers appointed by the Board shall hold their offices during the pleasure of the Board, and shall not resign their offices without giving at least six months' notice to the Board of their intention so to do.

SECT. 3.—The salaries of the officers shall be established as follows, viz :—The Superintendent shall receive eight hundred dollars per annum ; the Chaplain and Teacher shall receive six hundred dollars per annum ; the Matron a sum not exceeding four dollars per week ; the Steward a sum not exceeding four hundred dollars per annum.

CHAPTER III.

DUTY OF SUPERINTENDENT.

SECT. 1.—In addition to the requirements of sections ten, eleven, and twelve, of the act to establish the State Reform School, the Superintendent shall attend to the correspondence relating to the boys, keeping files of all letters received, and retaining copies of all that are forwarded. He shall keep a daily register of the weather.

SECT. 2.—He shall be authorized, in connection with the Executive Committee, to employ suitable persons as assistants, subject to the approval of the Board, and, if deemed necessary, may, with the advice of the Executive Committee, discharge from service any of the persons thus employed.

SECT. 3.—He shall report to the Trustees, for their approbation, all such regulations, in regard to the distribution of the duties among those employed in the institution, as he may find to be requisite or convenient.

SECT. 4.—He shall be ready, at all times, to perform whatever services shall be required of him by the Trustees, not inconsistent with the performance of the duties herein prescribed.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE STEWARD.

SECT. 1.—The Steward shall be the farmer, and shall have charge of the implements and cattle for the farm, and all other necessary articles, and shall be responsible for the economical use of the same.

SECT. 2.—Under the direction of the Superintendent, he shall make all such purchases as may be required, and attend to the engaging and discharging such adult help as may be temporarily employed on the farm.

SECT. 3.—He shall keep correct and methodical accounts of all receipts and expenditures relating to the farm, and of all the labor performed on the farm by the boys of the institution.

SECT. 4.—He shall be ready, at all times, to perform whatever services may be required of him by the Superintendent.

CHAPTER V.

OF CHAPLAIN AND TEACHER.

SECT. 1.—He shall conduct religious worship in the chapel on the Sabbath, and on all other days set apart for religious observance, and also the morning and evening devotional exercises.

SECT. 2.—In his capacity of Teacher, he shall attend to the instruction of the boys in reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, and such other branches as may be required for at least four hours a day. In his intercourse with the boys, he shall practise a social and familiar manner, but, at the same time, maintain that decision and energy of character that will enable him to command respect and obedience at all times.

SECT. 3.—He shall take direction of the recreation and amusement of the boys, shall see that a proper spirit is manifested among them, and that they indulge in no improper plays.

SECT. 4.—He shall assist the Superintendent, in all suitable ways, in the management of the house; and, in case of sickness or absence, shall perform his duties, provided no other person is appointed for that purpose.

SECT. 5.—He shall perform all such other services, relating to moral and religious instruction, and the interest of the institution, as may be authorized and requested by the Superintendent.

CHAPTER VI.

THE MATRON.

SECT. 1.—The Matron shall have the general charge of the domestic concerns of the institution.

SECT. 2.—She shall attend to the cleanliness and good order of the apartments; shall have the care of, and take the general direction of, the sewing, clothing, bedding, washing, ironing, cooking, and baking.

SECT. 3.—She shall see that all the female assistants are faithful and diligent in the discharge of their duties, discreet and regular in their deportment, and that they observe all the regulations of the institution.

SECT. 4.—She shall see that the sick receive proper attention, and, if any female assistant has failed to be faithful, or shall be guilty of any abuse of trust or neglect of duty, she shall report the case immediately to the Superintendent.

SECT. 5.—She shall be ready to perform whatever extraordinary services shall be required by the Superintendent.

CHAPTER VII.

THE WATCHMAN.

SECT. 1.—Under the direction of the Superintendent, the Watchman shall perform a regular patrol throughout and around the building, for the purpose of observing all occurrences, and discovering danger from fire. He shall attend to the fires, and he must never have a light except in a lantern.

SECT. 2.—He shall exert the utmost vigilance to guard the buildings against fires; and, if fire is discovered, he shall forthwith notify the Superintendent, and other officers and assistants, but not give a general alarm until so ordered by the Superintendent.

SECT. 3.—He shall ring the bell in the morning, and at other times, as may be directed by the Superintendent.

SECT. 4.—He shall perform all other services which may be required of him by the Superintendent.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE TREASURER.

SECT. 1.—The Treasurer of the Board shall have the custody and charge of the Trust Fund, keeping full and accurate accounts in relation thereto; in investing, keeping, and expending, the proceeds of the same, he shall conform to the directions of the Board.

SECT. 2.—In case the Treasurer of the Board shall be the person who is commissioned by the Governor as the Treasurer of the institution, and shall perform the duties of that office, he shall be allowed a salary of two hundred dollars per annum for his whole services.

CHAPTER IX.

OF LABOR, INSTRUCTION, AND DISCIPLINE.

SECT. 1.—The general division of time for each day, except the Sabbath, shall be as follows:—For labor, six hours; for school, four

hours; for sleep, eight and one half hours; and four and one half hours for devotional exercises, incidental duties, and recreation.

SECT. 2.—The time for rising in the morning, shall be at five o'clock, except in the months of December, January, and February, when it shall be at half-past five. The time for bed, throughout the year, shall be at half-past eight o'clock, P. M.

SECT. 3.—Should a boy refuse or hesitate to obey, he is to be admonished and informed of the consequences; if the boy still persist, the officer will immediately send for the Superintendent; if he be absent, the boy will be placed in the lodge, and the case reported as soon as opportunity occurs.

SECT. 4.—No officer, or other person, regularly employed in the institution, shall be absent from the premises without permission of the Superintendent.

SECT. 5.—Every boy shall be in the charge of some responsible person, at all times, unless he is permitted to be at large by the Superintendent. Whenever a boy is taken from the house or yard by any person duly authorized, that person shall be responsible for his safe-keeping, until returned to the house, or entrusted to the care of another person duly authorized.

SECT. 6.—No officer, or other person, shall ever permit a boy to receive or examine his keys.

SECT. 7.—All who are employed in the institution, in whatever capacity, are required to devote their whole time to the performance of such duties as are enjoined upon them by the by-laws, or as shall be required of them by the Superintendent.

CHAPTER X.

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

SECT. 1.—All persons employed in the institution who are well, and can be spared from their duties, shall attend the daily devotional exercises, and the religious services of the Sabbath, unless leave of absence is specially granted.

SECT. 2.—Officers and assistants shall take especial care that their demeanor during the services shall be strictly becoming and worthy of imitation.

SECT. 3.—All the arrangements which shall be made by the Superintendent, in reference to the services of the chapel, shall be faithfully carried into effect by the other officers and attendants.

SECT. 4.—No officer or attendant, while connected with the institution, shall, at any time, make use of intoxicating liquor of any kind, at home or abroad, nor shall any one make use of tobacco, or smoke a cigar or pipe about the premises.

SECT. 5.—All persons who have duties to perform shall rise in the morning at the ringing of the bell.

SECT. 6.—All persons who agree to perform services at the institution shall be considered as engaged for one year, unless a special contract shall be made for a longer or shorter time; and no person thus employed shall discontinue service at or after the expiration of the year or time agreed for, without giving to the Superintendent or Trustee at least thirty days' notice of an intention so to do.

SECT. 7.—All persons employed in or about the buildings of the institution, are required to conform strictly to all the rules and regulations, and, at all times, so to speak and conduct themselves, that their example shall be worthy of imitation.

LAWS AND RESOLVES

FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND REGULATION OF THE
STATE REFORM SCHOOL, AND FOR THE ERECTION OF
BUILDINGS THEREFOR.

Resolves for the erection of a State Manual Labor School.

Resolved, That his excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, be, and he is, hereby authorized and empowered, to appoint a board of three commissioners, who shall have power to select and obtain, by gift or purchase, and take a conveyance to the Commonwealth, of a lot of land containing not less than fifty acres, which shall be an eligible site for a manual labor school, for the employment, instruction, and reformation, of juvenile offenders, regard being had, in the selection thereof, to the centre of population, cheapness of living, and facility of access. And that said commissioners shall further be directed to procure plans and estimates for the buildings necessary for such an institution, and to prepare and mature a system for the government thereof, and to ascertain what laws would be necessary and proper to put the same into successful operation, and to report the result to his excellency the Governor, in season to be communicated to the Legislature at the commencement of their next session. And the said commissioners shall present all their accounts to the Governor and Council, to be by them audited and allowed, as they may deem just.

Resolved, That, to defray the expense incurred by the purchase of said land, and in the execution of the other objects of the commission, his excellency the Governor be, and he hereby is, authorized to draw his warrants, from time to time, on the Treasury of the Commonwealth, for any necessary sums of money, not exceeding, in the whole, ten thousand dollars.—
[Approved, April 16, 1846.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

To the Honorable House of Representatives :

I herewith transmit, for the information and use of the two Houses, the Report of the Commissioners, appointed under the Resolves of the 16th of April, 1846, "for the erection of a State Manual Labor School." I commend this able Report to the favorable consideration of the Legislature.

The commissioners state that they have received from a gentleman, who, with a delicacy as remarkable as his munificence, withholds his name from the public, ten thousand dollars, to promote this noble charity. The same liberal and noble-hearted individual offers to pay five or ten thousand dollars more in January, 1848, provided the State will pay the same amount, and provided the commissioners shall be of opinion, that such an amount "can be usefully employed for the school." In communicating this report, I deem it necessary only to say to you, in the language of the report itself, that "of the many and valuable institutions sustained in whole, or in part, from the public treasury, we may safely say, that none is of more importance, or holds a more intimate connexion with the future prosperity and moral integrity of the community, than one which promises to take neglected, wayward, wandering, idle and vicious boys, with perverse minds and corrupted hearts, and cleanse, and purify, and reform them, and thus send them forth, in the erectness of manhood and in the beauty of virtue, educated and prepared to be industrious, useful, and virtuous citizens."

GEO. N. BRIGGS.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, *January 15th, 1847.*

To His Excellency GEORGE N. BRIGGS:

SIR,—The Commissioners, appointed under the Resolves of the last Legislature, for erecting a State Manual Labor School, herewith submit to your Excellency and the Honorable Council,—

Their Report.

Their draft of a Bill relating to the State Juvenile Reform School.

Their draft of a Resolve appropriating money for the erection of buildings for said school.

The plans of buildings for said school, prepared by Mr. Isaac Melvin, architect, with his explanatory statements and estimates.

A plan of the farm purchased for said school, and sundry communications made to the Commissioners.

The deed of the farm, warranting the title to the Commonwealth, has been deposited in the office of the Treasurer and Receiver General of the Commonwealth.

We are, very respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

A. D. FOSTER,

ROB. RANTOUL,

SAML. H. WALLEY, JR.

Boston, Jan. 12, 1847.

To His Excellency GEORGE N. BRIGGS, Governor, and to the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

The subscribers, commissioners appointed under the Resolves of the last Legislature, entitled "Resolves for the erection of a State Manual Labor School," respectfully make their Report:

The Resolves provide that the Commissioners shall have "power to select and obtain, by gift or purchase, and take a

conveyance to the Commonwealth, of a lot of land, containing not less than fifty acres, which shall be an eligible site for a Manual Labor School, for the employment, instruction, and reformation of juvenile offenders, regard being had, in the selection thereof, to the centre of population, cheapness of living, and facility of access. And that said Commissioners shall further be directed to procure plans and estimates for the buildings necessary for such an institution, and to prepare and mature a system for the government thereof, and to ascertain what laws would be necessary and proper to put the same into successful operation, and to report the result to his excellency the Governor, in season to be communicated to the Legislature, at the commencement of their next session."

The design of this proposed institution, is "the reformation of juvenile offenders." It is to take those, who might otherwise be subjected to the degradation of prison discipline, and separate them from vicious influences: to teach them their duty to God and their fellow-beings; prepare them to earn an honest livelihood, by honorable industry, in some trade or agricultural employment; and to give them such an intellectual education, as will fit them properly to discharge the common business of life.

It is a truly benevolent object, worthy of the approbation and encouragement of all good men.

In every town, there are some, in the cities and large towns many, who exercise no salutary control over their children. Vicious or thriftless themselves, their children follow their example. And, in that tender age, when the mind and heart most easily yield to the guidance of others, these children and youth become "offenders" against good morals and the laws of their country, hardened against truth and duty, and subject themselves to the stern penalty of the law. How often have the hearts of judges and jurors been moved with pity, when they have been obliged to condemn and sentence to ignominious punishment some bright, intelligent boy, who was born and reared under such inauspicious circumstances! How often has such a boy become a fiend, when he should have been a man,—at war with society himself, and society at war with

him; but, yet, who might have been reclaimed by such an institution as the one now proposed, and thus become a good member of society!

Considerations like these have made the Commissioners earnestly desirous of doing their part, in this enterprise, by the most faithful discharge of the duties assigned them.

They have sought, by advertisement in newspapers, and by inquiry of individuals, to find a site, which would answer the requirement of the resolves. They are themselves satisfied with the result. They have purchased the farm of Lovett Peters, Esquire, in Westborough, containing one hundred and eighty acres, and one hundred and five rods of land. It is situated on the borders of Chauncey Pond, which makes its boundary on one side. The pond is of clear, pure water, about thirty feet in depth, and covering one hundred and seventy-eight and a half acres of land. The ground rises, by a gentle acclivity, from the shore of the pond, to a height which overlooks this beautiful sheet of water, and an extent of country beyond, embracing, in part, the village of Westborough, and gives a very pleasing prospect. There are no manufacturing villages in the vicinity, and the farm-houses are not more numerous than in most of the agricultural towns in the State, in proportion to the area. The situation, therefore, is sufficiently retired. The depot of the Boston and Worcester Railroad, in the village of Westborough, is at two and a half miles distance, and the road from thence is level, or of very gradual ascent. The place is thus easy of access, and it is so near to the centre of population, as to make it satisfactory in that particular. The farm is divided into wood-land, pasture, tillage, and mowing, and has variety of soil, but is principally of that which is susceptible of the highest cultivation. It is now well cultivated, and there are upon it more than a hundred apple trees, of selected, grafted fruit, with some pear, peach, and other fruit trees. The house, occupied by Mr. Peters, and the barns, are in good repair; the water in the wells is good and abundant for the uses of a family, while the waters of the large pond will furnish facilities for bathing, and may be used for a variety of other purposes connected with the establishment.

The quantity of land is greater than is required by the terms of the resolves; but, it being so favorably situated, lying all in one body, and it being, as yet, uncertain how large a quantity will best promote the interests of the institution, it was deemed better to secure enough at first, rather than trust to enlarging the amount hereafter.

In the purchase of this site, the Commissioners suppose they have secured as much land as will ever be needed, in a healthful situation; with a beautiful prospect; in a good farming neighborhood; retired, yet sufficiently near to a railroad, to make it easily accessible from all parts of the Commonwealth; with good soil; water easily obtained for culinary purposes, and abundant, and of easy access for other uses; and the consideration reasonable, being the sum of nine thousand dollars. In addition to this, the Commissioners have the very great satisfaction of reporting, that a gentleman of wealth, whose heart is interested in this charity, has made the noble donation of ten thousand dollars for its promotion. He authorized the expenditure, in that way, of so much of this sum as was necessary to pay for this farm,—the balance remains in the hands of the Chairman of the Commissioners. The sum appropriated by the Legislature has not been asked for by the Commissioners.

We sometimes sigh at the thought that “the poor ye have always with you.” But its painfulness is relieved, when we can see that the rich remember the poor in their necessities, and the vicious in their degradation, and open to them their hearts with sympathy, and their hands with aid.

Such is the fruit of Christianity, in its direct or collateral influences, and such fruit we are accustomed to see in our beloved Commonwealth. It comes to us now, with the beauty of bounty given by a hand concealed. This friend of wandering, sinning, outcast children, who thus generously aids the State in providing for them, chooses that his deeds only be known, not his name. May the blessing of them that are ready to perish, and that of Heaven, rest upon him!

The same gentleman does not let his benevolent regards for this school cease with the payment of his generous gift. He

offers another donation. And, to a letter of the Chairman of the Commissioners, proposing that those parts of the gentleman's letter, in which he states his purpose, should be extracted and included in the report to be made to the Governor and Council, the following answer was received :—

“ I am quite willing that you should make the extracts that you propose to insert in your report, from my last letter, though I ought to add, that that letter, like the others I have addressed to you, was altogether an informal one, and written with no more care than a person insensibly takes when he seeks to express himself distinctly on a subject on which he feels deeply. It should be observed, moreover, that though the topic is one that I consider very important, yet what I have said, in regard to it, is stated in brief and general terms.”

The extracts, thus permitted to be made, are as follows :—

“ I put a great value on the State Manual Labor School, and am exceedingly desirous not only that it should begin well, but that it should meet with undoubted success, and deserve and secure the approbation and support of the community. For I do not think that a measure, costing an equal amount of money, care, and attention, could have been devised that will, in the end, diminish, to a greater extent, vice, crime, and suffering in the Commonwealth.

“ I do not look on this school as an experiment. On the contrary, it strikes me that it is an institution which will produce decidedly beneficial results, not only for the present day, but for many years to come. I do not, therefore, think it should, even now, be treated, in any respect, in the light of an experiment,—to be abandoned if not successful ; for, if the school is introduced to public notice on no better footing and with no more preparation than usually attend trial schemes of most kinds, the probability is, that it will fail, considering the peculiar difficulties of the case. So far, then, from doing this, I should think it much better to lay out, at once, a plan for a permanent school, but on a scale as moderate, or limited, as may be thought proper ; and, of course, to incorporate in that design those arrangements that, after a due investigation of the subject, shall be considered as likely to render the institution

useful and efficient, as well immediately as to a distant day ; though, at the same time, there can be but little question, but that, after a few years' experience, alterations in, or additions to, the original plan, may be advantageously made.

"I am happy to find, also, from the letters that I have had the pleasure of receiving from you, that this is the view which the State Commission take of the subject.

"If, therefore, those to whom is, or may be, entrusted the management of this school, should entertain as favorable an opinion of it as I have expressed, and should consider it of sufficient importance to the public weal to justify them in laying it out on a plan to which some elements of a permanent character shall be given, I state, at this time, my willingness to contribute some share towards the funds that may be required to effect the general object. I will, therefore, now agree to pay, for the use of the State Manual Labor School, in January, 1848, (or make the amount a charge against my estate,) the sum of five, or the sum of ten, thousand dollars, provided, first, that the State will contribute a sum equal in amount to what I shall contribute ; and provided, second, that the present commissioners, or other persons acting for the Commonwealth, shall be of the opinion that this sum of ten or twenty thousand dollars, as the case may be, from the two parties before mentioned, can be usefully employed for the school.

"I attach no conditions to the way in which my second donation, whether of five or of ten thousand dollars, shall be appropriated. But it has occurred to me, that a fund might be established for giving a certain amount of aid, in some shape or other, to those boys that are discharged from school under meritorious circumstances, or even of providing something to enable all, properly discharged, to return again to society, without being immediately and directly exposed to those temptations that probably were often the principal cause of their originally becoming tenants of the institution. The hour is, in all cases, a trying one for a boy, when he leaves a school of this sort, and, in many cases, is in fact what may be called the critical period of his life. A kind hand, therefore, held out to a poor lad just then, even for a short time, may not only secure

and confirm to him all the good that he has obtained in the institution, but may place him in comfort and respectability as long as he lives.

“In regard, however, to this second donation—whatever may be the amount of it,—you will permit me to say, that it is again, and still earnestly, my wish, that my name should be known to no one but yourself,—at least for the present. I, therefore, now offer a second donation of five or of ten thousand dollars to the State Manual Labor School, on the same conditions, so far as the name of the donor is concerned, that I did the first.”

These judicious suggestions, and this generous offer, the Commissioners would commend to the enlightened and liberal consideration of the Legislature.

In regard to “plans for the buildings necessary for such an institution,” several things are to be considered.

For what number should provision be made?

The Commissioners have had no peculiar means of answering this question. But they suppose it will not be unreasonable to say, that there may be at least one hundred and fifty boys in the Commonwealth, who may become subjects for such an institution, within a short period after its establishment. We know that most of the inmates will come from populous places. In such places, it is matter of regret to believe that the number of crimes and of criminals among the young, have increased of late years; that prosecutions and convictions are frequent, and that numbers, who should go to such an institution as is proposed, are now, from necessity, sent to prisons and penitentiaries. There is already provision made, by the Farm School on Thompson’s Island, and the House of Refuge for Juvenile Offenders at South Boston, for a considerable number, but it is understood that both these institutions are full.

Another question is intimately connected with this, and that is, how many can be provided for, in a proper manner, in one establishment? This will depend, in some measure, upon the number of suitable attendants employed, and the expense which the State may be willing to incur for the institution. Yet it may be doubted whether, in any one establishment, it would be desirable to bring together more than three hundred, exclusive

of officers and attendants. Certainly, unless the buildings are very extensive and well arranged, the larger the number, the greater the difficulty in securing proper classification, separation and supervision.

After much consideration, the Commissioners have determined to recommend an establishment capable of accommodating three hundred boys, and the necessary officers and attendants. But they do not propose to prepare it, at first, for more than one hundred and fifty. They would adapt the size of the enclosure and the buildings for the larger number, and finish and furnish so much of them as would be sufficient for the smaller number.

This is not to be called a prison or a penitentiary; it is a school for juvenile reform. In order, therefore, to remove, as far as possible, every thing which is calculated to attach the disgrace of penitentiary punishment to those who may be sent there, we propose to give, to the external appearance of the buildings, as little that of a prison as is consistent with entire security from escape. Those who will be sent to this school will generally have formed roving habits, and, with them, restraint will be irksome, and the desire of escape strong. No hope can be entertained of exercising a reformatory influence over them, until they are fully satisfied that they are so far confined, guarded, and watched, that they must conform to rules. This requires strong buildings, enclosing sufficient space to furnish all the necessary accommodations, and shops within it, or buildings in a yard, surrounded by a high wall. Believing that the appearance will be more cheerful and inviting, and equal or superior accommodations afforded, the commissioners prefer and recommend, that there be no exterior wall, but that the buildings form the protecting enclosure. It is to be presumed and expected that, after the inmates have been, for some time, under discipline and instruction, classes can be formed of lads who may, with safety, be trusted to work in the garden and on the farm, relying upon the moral influence exercised, and upon constant inspection, to restrain them from escape. But this cannot be wholly relied upon, in any case, at first. It is, therefore, desirable to make the arrangements of the buildings such

as, with few attendants, will secure constant, unintermitted supervision. In procuring plans and estimates, the commissioners have had these principles in view, and they submit the results in the drawings which accompany this report and the architect's estimates. Regard has been had to external appearance so far only as was consistent with economy and durability, almost nothing being added for mere ornament. True economy is believed to be best consulted, by adapting buildings to their uses at first, and erecting them in so substantial a manner as to require few repairs. Such buildings are proposed in this case. The appropriation required may seem large. Let the people of Massachusetts, however, be satisfied that a project of benevolence, which can be constitutionally supported, is approved by their legislators, and will be conducted with judicious economy, and they are ever ready to sanction and pay for it. Of the many and valuable institutions sustained, in whole or in part, from the public treasury, we may safely say that none is of more importance, or holds a more intimate connection with the future prosperity and moral integrity of the community, than one which promises to take neglected, wayward, wandering, idle and vicious boys, with perverse minds and corrupted hearts, and cleanse, and purify, and reform them, and thus send them forth, in the erectness of manhood, and the beauty of virtue, educated and prepared to be industrious, useful, and virtuous citizens.

Having given their opinion as to the number for whom provision should be made, and offered plans and estimates for the buildings, the next question which presents itself to the commissioners is, who shall be admitted to the institution? And first, under this question, has been the consideration, whether both sexes should be provided for in the same establishment? On this point, the opinions of practical and judicious men differ. By some it is thought that it is the order of Providence, that the sexes should be trained up together, as they are associated together in families; that, in such an establishment, such an arrangement is more economical, because the girls can do the washing and mending, and, perhaps, the cooking; and that the same principal officers will be sufficient for the superintendence

of both sexes. If the boys and girls, to be brought into such an institution, were well trained at home, and this was only a school of instruction, there might be no valid objection to bringing them under the same roof and the same teachers, as in our common schools, though, even on this question, the community are divided in opinion. But the fundamental idea of this school is, that it is for *offenders*. And, in fact, it is found, in similar establishments, that the girls sent to them are far more vicious, and more difficult to manage, than the boys. Of course, it must be obvious to every one, that, by bringing the sexes together under such circumstances, the difficulty of government must be much increased, and the hope of reformation materially diminished. If, nominally, in the same establishment, they must, in fact, be separated as entirely and securely as though they were in different institutions, and the only advantage can be in economy. Perhaps there might be a pecuniary saving; but the Commissioners are unanimously of opinion, that this will not be a sufficient offset to the increased difficulty of government and discipline. They propose, therefore, that provision should be made for boys only, in these buildings. If it should be found that the public interest requires a reformatory school for girls, other and distinct buildings should be erected, even if they be upon the same farm and under the same Superintendent. But this they would not recommend.

In regard to the limit of age within which boys may be sent to this school, the reformatory character of the school is always to be kept in view. And such subjects only are to be received, as may reasonably be expected to be reformed. Of course, those who are adults in stature, and hardened in crime, are scarcely to be considered suitable associates for those of more tender years. Yet, there is such variety in stature, temperament, and character, among persons of the same age, that it is difficult to select any one age as the limit, either maximum or minimum. In a majority of cases, boys over sixteen years of age would be unsuitable subjects, and the general rule, it is thought, should be, not to send boys over that age to this place. But, subject to the power of rejection, to be vested in the Trustees in certain cases, it is proposed to authorize the com-

mitment to this institution of all boys who make themselves amenable to the penalty of the law for any and all crimes. If they can be reformed thoroughly, their offences should not be remembered against them: if they cannot, the law should protect society against their malicious dispositions and wicked conduct. Some may doubt whether it be right to send, to such an institution, those who are convicted of the more aggravated crimes. But, many times, such crimes are committed by children, under the instigation of older persons, and they may be as hopeful subjects of reformatory influences, as children, of like age, who are guilty of minor offences, under less temptation. It is, therefore, only acting with humanity and benevolence, to endeavor to reform them; and it is neither humane nor benevolent to desire the vengeance of the law to rest upon their heads. Yet, by the right of rejection from this school, in hopeless cases, we would still leave the penalty of the law hanging over the incorrigible offender, with the certainty of its infliction.

The power to send to this institution, is one which requires to be exercised with a very sound discretion. The liberty and the rights of the citizen are never to be interfered with, or abridged, unless the good of society require it: and, in the case of these children, their own good is a principal consideration. It is believed that the rights of all will be secured by the bill which will accompany this report.

Much reliance must be placed upon those who are appointed to superintend the institution, and regulate its affairs. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that persons be selected for this purpose who will, in advance, rightfully possess the confidence of the public; and who will justify that confidence by a faithful discharge of the duties of their offices.

The leading object of this institution should be, and we trust is intended to be, the entire reformation of wayward boys, thus saving the subjects of reform from ruin, and rendering them permanent blessings to their race.

This being the object, how shall it be secured?

The Commissioners have endeavored so to frame the bill, which is herewith submitted for consideration, as to meet what seems to be the public exigency and the public wish.

In order to secure the desired reformation, the Commissioners propose to call the institution *a school* (The State Juvenile Reform School;)—not a prison, nor a penitentiary. They also propose to substitute the Commonwealth, as represented by the officers of this school, in the place of the parents of these boys, and to commit, to their guardianship and control, the boys, during their nonage.

They discard totally the idea of defining the degree of crime which the boys shall have respectively committed, by prescribing the length of time during which they shall remain in the school;—let that matter be left at the discretion of the new guardians of these boys, who can only judge *after trial* what is best for the boys and for the community.

For a plain class of minor offences, the Commissioners propose that boys *shall* be sent, in the first instance, to this school, without discretion on the part of the court or magistrate, *provided* they are under the age of sixteen.

For a higher grade of crime, or a second conviction, or for offences of such various kinds that they cannot be accurately described by the Legislature under the first class, the Commissioners propose to leave a discretion with the court, to send them to the school or not.

For boys over the age of sixteen, for first convictions, they also propose to vest a discretion in the court, subject, however, to a negative on the part of the Trustees, if, in their judgment, the interests of the school would suffer by the admission of any such boy.

And, finally, the Commissioners recommend that, upon complaint of an overseer of the poor, or of the chairman of a school committee, for certain alleged causes, set forth in the bill, magistrates may send boys to this school.

The Commissioners propose that the sentences of the courts shall be alternative, in reference to all cases, other than those provided for in the fourth section of the bill; and as to that class of cases, the Commissioners propose that the Trustees shall not be compelled to retain such boys as may be injurious, by their example and influence, to the other boys, but may have them remanded to the court for sentence, by filing an informa-

tion with the district attorney of the middle district,—to the end that the boys may know that, if they fail to please the trustees and superintendent, they will be sent to the jail, or house of correction, in like manner as if no school like this had been provided.

Such a sentence will prevent any difficulty, or confusion, which might else arise in the proper execution of the law, and punishment of offences for the protection of society. The discretion allowed to the trustees, in reference to discharging and binding out boys, is such as follows from the parental authority with which we desire to see them clothed.

As to the support of this institution, the Commissioners have not reported any plan: suffice it for us to say that, whatever financial scheme may be devised, we trust that the time and labor of the boys will, in no instance, be “farmed out,” as a matter of saving and economy, a whit beyond what the trustees, in the exercise of sound judgment, believe to be for the best interest of the boys and the community, as a whole.

For the purpose of examining establishments of similar design with this, the Commissioners have visited the House for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, in New York; the House of Refuge, in Philadelphia; and the Refuge for Juvenile Delinquents at South Boston; and the Farm School at Thompson’s Island. They have to acknowledge the kindness of the managers of each of those institutions, and the value of the information thus obtained.

They addressed, to a number of gentlemen, in this and other States, a circular letter, a copy of which is herewith submitted, together with such replies as were received, in which the writers expressed opinions on the topics presented in the circular. These replies, coming from men of great intelligence and respectability, deserve the careful perusal of the members of the Legislature.

A pamphlet, also submitted, entitled “The design and advantages of the House of Refuge,” understood to have been written by Frederick A. Packard, Esq., of Philadelphia, will be found worthy of examination.

The Commissioners, also, present the draft of a resolve, pro-

viding for a commission, to be appointed for the purpose of erecting the buildings which will be required for the use of the school.

And, for this whole subject, they ask the deliberate and careful consideration of the Legislature. They are persuaded that few subjects, of more real importance, can claim that consideration. If there be any one thing of more value to a state, than another, it is the virtuous education of its citizens. For those who will avail themselves of our schools, open to every child, provision is already made. But for those who, blind to their own interests, choose the school of vicious associates only, the State has yet to provide a compulsory school, as a substitute for the prison,—it may be for the gallows. There is good reason to hope that the proposed institution will be the means of the reform and salvation of many,—but, if only of a few, who can estimate its worth? To reform, is to make one a useful and ornamental part of the social fabric, instead of his being the reverse. “Consider our work,” says Mr. Wichern, superintendent of the institution at Horn, “as the bringing forward of the smallest stone to the building of this temple; as the eager searching, in swamps and dangerous places, and shoals, among ruins and rubbish of fallen houses, to find here and there a building stone, thrown away and trodden under foot, but which may still be fit to be used for this noble new building. Look thus at our work, and we need not be afraid that your aid will not remain encouraging and helping with us.”

ALFRED DWIGHT FOSTER,
ROBT. RANTOUL,
SAML. H. WALLEY, JR.

BOSTON, *January 12, 1847.*

Circular of the Commissioners.

BOSTON, September 19th, 1846.

SIR,—The undersigned have been appointed Commissioners, in pursuance of a resolve, passed by the Legislature of Massachusetts, at the session of 1846, in the following words:—

“*Resolved*, That His Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint a board of three Commissioners, who shall have power to select and obtain, by gift or purchase, and take a conveyance to the Commonwealth, of a lot of land, containing not less than fifty acres, which shall be an eligible site for a Manual Labor School, for the employment, instruction, and reformation of juvenile offenders, regard being had, in the selection thereof, to the centre of population, cheapness of living, and facility of access. And that said Commissioners shall further be directed to procure plans and estimates for the buildings necessary for such an institution, and to prepare and mature a system for the government thereof, and to ascertain what laws would be necessary and proper to put the same into successful operation, and to report the result to His Excellency the Governor, in season to be communicated to the Legislature at the commencement of their next session. And the said Commissioners shall present all their accounts to the Governor and Council, to be by them audited and allowed, as they may deem just.

“*Resolved*, That, to defray the expense incurred by the purchase of said land, and in the execution of the other objects of the commission, His Excellency the Governor be, and he hereby is, authorized to draw his warrants, from time to time, on the treasury of the Commonwealth, for any necessary sums of money, not exceeding, in the whole, ten thousand dollars.”

In pursuance of our duties as pointed out by our commission, we have examined different sites in various towns of the Commonwealth, and have secured the right to purchase one, which we approve, and shall make the purchase, unless, before the first

of October, we should meet with a site which would offer more advantages for the object contemplated by the Legislature.

In order to the proper discharge of our duties, we wish to obtain such information as will enable us to present, for the consideration of the Legislature, *a plan for the proposed edifice*, and *a system for conducting the affairs of the institution*. We, therefore, respectfully request you to furnish us with all the information at your command, in reply to the following queries, viz. :—

1. Can you give us any hints as to the *plan of construction* of the requisite buildings?

2. What should be the limit of age, beyond which no admission should be made; and should former character be taken into account by the managers in determining the question of admission?

3. Should the institution be for lads only, or should girls also be admitted?

4. Should there be any rule as to the classes of offences, for which juvenile offenders should be received as inmates of this institution?

5. Should commitments be made by courts alone, or by others, and if so, by whom?

6. For how large a number should provision be made in the institution?

7. What provision should be made for such youth as shall be discharged from the institution?

8. What shall entitle to a discharge?

9. Please make such suggestions as occur to you, as to the general management of the institution, including,—

1. Discipline.
2. Trades.
3. Employments.
4. Instruction, &c.

Your obedient servants,

ALFRED DWIGHT FOSTER,
ROBERT RANTOUL,
SAMUEL H. WALLEY, JR.

Commissioners.

P. S. An answer is requested at your earliest convenience, addressed to either of the Commissioners. We hope to hear from you on or before the 15th of October.

Letter from FREDERICK A. PACKARD, ESQ, *of Philadelphia, Pa.*

Philadelphia, Oct. 19, 1846.

MY DEAR SIR,—I was absent from home all last week, or I should have tried to send you the enclosed by the time specified in your circular. Since I saw notice of the site selected for your school, I have felt new interest in its success. Col. Andrew Peters, (the old surveyor,) was among my most excellent friends, when, in the year 1811, I went to Westboro' to keep school. Mr. Lovell Peters was the school committee-man. I remember the farm perfectly, and could find it without difficulty. I should think it was a very eligible spot.

The paper I enclose is hardly worth the postage, and yet, as a *Massachusetts man*, I could not feel justified in not contributing, (at least in form,) to the furtherance of this new enterprise of benevolence.

With my best respects to your colleagues, accept assurances of my desire to serve you far better than my time or ability will allow.

Yours, &c.

FRED. A. PACKARD.

It is proposed to establish a State "Manual Labor School, for the employment, instruction, and reformation of juvenile offenders," in Massachusetts.

A plan of suitable buildings for such a school, and a proper system of instruction, are to be matured, and sundry questions are proposed with a view to obtain information on these points:

I suppose the order of the questions is entirely accidental, and I should therefore regard—I., (4th,) your fourth as my first: "*Should there be any rule as to the classes of offences for which juvenile offenders should be received as inmates of the institution?*"

I think there should be. The proportion which offences

against *property* bear to all other is very large. The temptation to commit such offences is very strong, even in early childhood,—especially among those who lack the ordinary comforts and even necessities of life. Children who are sent out to beg food, or to gather wood or chips, or who merely lead idle and vagrant lives, easily fall into habits of petty thieving, falsehood or deceit, from which the transition is natural and rapid to higher grades of the like offences; and hence a very bold and adroit thief or pickpocket, is sometimes found at the age of 13 or 14, and even earlier. Juvenile offenders of this class are (other things being equal) among the most suitable subjects of a *reform school*. Contempt of parental authority and habitual insubordination to law (which are so characteristic of the present time,) would furnish a much more unpromising class of subjects for such a discipline as you have in view, and would require much more formidable provision for penal treatment and safe keeping, than thrice as many thieves, or liars, or mere vagrants. Two little boys were convicted, (if I remember right,) some fifteen or twenty years ago, of burning the Cambridge Alms-house in the night-time. They were capitally convicted, if not actually sentenced to death, but, in consideration of their tender age, the punishment was commuted to imprisonment for life! Perhaps only one was convicted; but they were hired by one of the adult inmates to do the deed, and were probably much more suitable subjects of such an institution as yours, than of the severe penalty to which they were doomed. There is many a boy in our streets and in yours, who, impelled by violent passion, throws a stone at his comrade, or, in some other form, manifests a malicious or mischievous disposition, who merits the severest penal discipline, but whose offence is scarcely recognized even by parental oversight. Now, in classifying these parties, probably both would be excluded from your institution,—the crime of the former being far above, and that of the latter far below, your range. The sensible rule on this subject would, therefore, seem to be to commit to your care such a number as you can well manage of those children and youth who have indeed formed *decidedly vicious habits*, and who are likely to grow up in them, unless

checked by some such discipline, and who, at the same time, *are best fitted, by capacity, temper, connexions, &c., to be "reformed" in an industrial school.* Bodily health and strength should also come into the estimate. Rickety, deformed, imbecile, epileptic children, *ought never to be admitted.* They are, in every view, improper subjects; and, while they greatly increase the expense and mortality of such an institution, they can receive little or no benefit which an alms-house would not equally afford.

Of the fitness of each individual to become a subject of the discipline of the school, the managers should be the final judges. They best know of what the institution is capable; and they should therefore have the controlling voice in the admission of inmates. If they are too rigid or exclusive, on the one hand, or too lax and careless on the other, a sufficient remedy is in the hands of the appointing power.

Touching this first inquiry, therefore, I should say, that the classification of offences should be so *general*, as to leave a wide margin for the discretion of the admitting power, and for a judicious regard to the varying circumstances of the institution.

II. (2d.) Your second question would also be my second. "*What should be the limit of age beyond which no admissions should be made; and should former character be taken into the account by the managers in determining the question of admission?*"

In answer to the latter clause, I should say, unhesitatingly, that "former character" should be an *essential* element in determining the question of admission. A boy that has been detected in a petty theft, or is taken up by the watchman for sleeping in the market or strolling in the streets, but whose general character is that of a kind, willing, inoffensive boy, will probably prove himself a much more favorable subject of your discipline than one whose whole offence may be represented as *incorrigible truancy*,—but who, from having been familiar with horse-dealers and race-courses, has acquired the impudent swagger and bravado of a pickpocket or highwayman, though no act of violence or fraud can be proved upon

him. Surely it will not be denied, that the former lives of two such youths, make an essential difference in estimating the probabilities of their reformation, under such a process as you propose.

As to the limit of *age*, it would seem safe to adopt it as a *general* rule, that no person shall be admitted who is so far advanced in years, as to make his restoration to good habits, on the whole, *quite improbable*. Some boys, at 14 and 15, are more mature in bodily strength, as well as in intelligence, capacity, and good or bad habits, than others at 18 or even 20. Two things should, therefore, be especially considered, viz. : (1.) Whether the candidate for admission has so much bodily strength as to require more safeguards and greater vigilance than would be needful for the *average of the inmates*. And (2.) Whether the influence of his evil example and daily association would be greatly augmented *in consequence of his age*. I should think that either of these points, decided affirmatively, should be generally fatal to his admission. In these respects, therefore, as in the former, a sound discretion would be required, and, in the exercise of it, some boys of 18 might be admitted and others at 14 rejected.

I think it has been a prevalent error at our Refuge, to admit those who have passed the age of reformation under so lenient a system. Where the profits of labor are relied upon, in any considerable degree, to defray the expenses of the institution, there is danger of running into this error. I do not mean to say, however, that this consideration has weighed at all with our managers. They have rather desired to receive all that could possibly be accommodated, in the hope that some good might be done even to the least promising. My reply, therefore, to your second question, would be briefly this: Admit no one who is so near his legal majority, as to preclude a *fair* opportunity to try the effect of employment and instruction, *as means of reformation*, nor any one whose character and habits are already such as to justify a reasonable doubt whether the evil he will bring into the school will not quite overbalance the good he is likely to carry away from it. Either of these considerations, well weighed, would have saved our House of

Refuge from most of the escapes, and, I think, from all the violent outbreaks it has suffered since I have been acquainted with it.

III. (3d.) Your *third* question is also the third in my order, viz.: *Should the institution be for lads only, or should girls also be admitted?* At the risk of differing in opinion, perhaps, from all others who may answer the question, I must reply that your school should be for *lads only*. I know of no sufficient reason for combining the two objects, except that one board of visitors could superintend both,—and that, to some extent, the same officers might serve for both,—the supplies might be obtained for both at once, and perhaps at a lower rate, and the female department might be employed in the household work of the whole institution, such as cooking, washing, &c.

So far as I know or can learn, the saving to our House of Refuge in this form would not exceed \$1000 per annum, probably not \$800, and I am quite sure that the evils of bringing both sexes into a common institution, are great and manifold. The discipline suitable for girls is so entirely different; the training and instruction they require, to fit them for their station in life, are so peculiar and so unlikely to be afforded, where their labor is required to such an extent in the service of both departments of the institution; the peculiar character of the most vicious habits of girls; and, more than all, the impracticability of preventing communication, without sacrificing some of the best features of the institution, or, at least, attaching an importance to the *preventive measures*, which is, *of itself*, a constant excitement to elude them—these, and other considerations of minor importance, would, I apprehend, more than counterbalance any advantages, which I am aware of, in the combination of the two classes. I may add that, so far as my knowledge extends,—institutions in England, most nearly resembling yours, make separate provision for each sex.

IV. (5th.) Your *fifth* question would be my fourth, viz.: *“Should commitments be made by courts alone or by others, and if so, by whom?”* I am not prepared to say, *“by courts alone,”* and yet I have known even Massachusetts magistrates, with whom I should be reluctant to lodge the power. If the mana-

gers or visiters could have their selection of magistrates to whom the power to commit should be restricted, the case would be materially different. I suppose it is not the design to send to such a school those who have been convicted of a felony upon a jury-trial. The resolution of the Legislature, under which you act, does not seem to contemplate the introduction of any *penal* element into the proposed institution. It is to "*employ*" and "*instruct,*" and *by these means* "*reform*" its subjects. And as the question of commitment will be very likely oftentimes to involve the *domestic and local* habits and circumstances of the youth, it is *in this view* desirable that the committing power should be entrusted to those tribunals which stand nearest to the *homes* of the people. Justices of the peace might be authorized to send subjects to the school and make return of their proceedings to any court of record next thereafter held in their county. The superintendent of the school being also required to make specific returns of all cases received, with the causes, &c., to the same court, the whole matter would be brought up for review; counsel could be heard against the proceedings of the magistrate, and full justice be done to all concerned.

V. (6th.) Your sixth question would be my fifth, viz.: "*For how large a number should provision be made in the institution?*" My reply to it would be governed entirely by the character of the boys whom you should determine to receive. If they were boys of such character, disposition, and age as would be most likely to be reformed by such "*employment and instruction*" as a Manual Labor School affords, I should suppose four or five hundred might be managed without difficulty, by a skilful principal and suitable assistants. On the other hand, if some dozen or twenty boys get admission, (as they have sometimes among us, whose depraved habits are thoroughly confirmed, and whose age or size, or both, give them the usual advantages of doing mischief, or inciting others to do it, a much less number (perhaps even half,) would be a full complement; and, with a still greater reduction, the task of the principal will be onerous enough. So that any answer which can be given to your sixth question must be given very much

in the dark, unless the age and character of the inmates are more exactly defined than they can be at this stage of your proceedings.

VI. (Sth.) Your eighth question would be my sixth, viz.: "*What shall entitle to a discharge?*" I presume there will be authority given to find out such of the inmates as may be proper subjects of indenture, and I should have no doubt that the institution ought to be empowered to retain its subjects until indentured, or dismissed as unsuitable subjects, or transferred by order of the visiters to some *strictly penal institution* on the ground of *incurrigibility at the school*. If it were possible, I would have such provision made by the law as would authorize the visiters to send up to the committing magistrate, or to the courts, such cases as were found, on fair trial, to be beyond the reach of school-discipline, in order that further and severer discipline might be enforced. Such a provision would be invaluable, were it only for its *in terrorem* effect. I am unable to imagine any ground on which a discharge could be claimed, *as a matter of right*, except in cases of *complete reformation*.

Your *first* and *seventh* questions I do not answer. The former would require more time and thought than I can spare, and more judgment and skill than I possess. The seventh must, I think, be a matter of expediency, to be determined by circumstances.

Your ninth question is necessarily very general, and would lead me into a wide field of inquiry and observation, in which I could not, in good conscience, ask you to follow me. Indeed, on the four points you have specified, I can offer but one or two very crude observations.

1. *Discipline*. It seems to me of great importance that, in a *school of reform*, rather than of *penal suffering*, the requisite order and subordination should be maintained by means *as unlike, as possible, to those employed in prisons*. I do not mean that I would avoid solitary confinement in a dark room, or a bread and water diet, merely because these expedients are used in a prison. So far from this, I would certainly provide accommodations for the *strictly separate* employment of boys, who, by their evil examples or communications, have proved

themselves unworthy of associating with others. And I should also require the *separate principle* to be employed in a *probationary season* of a few days, with an understanding that it would be prolonged or abridged, as the development of temper and disposition might justify. But I would weigh well the question whether, when a boy proves so perverse and unteachable that *prison discipline* will alone subdue him, it would not be better for *him*, as it certainly would be for the reform school, that he should be sent elsewhere to receive it.

I think we have sometimes erred in keeping a bad boy to absorb ten or twenty per cent. of the whole care and anxiety of the officers, and to exert a most baneful influence over all the rest of the inmates, when his reformation is not only exceedingly improbable, but, if accomplished, would scarcely be worth what it costs. For, say what we will, a lad at eighteen or twenty, with an ignorant and besotted mind, a thoroughly depraved heart, and habits of the lowest vice fully matured, is quite unlikely to become much of a blessing to himself or to society, by a reformation carried no farther than your school contemplates.

2 and 3. *Trades and Employments.* It will readily occur to you that, in determining these, primary reference must be had to this question—whether the individual can, without difficulty, avail himself of the skill he may acquire, upon his discharge,—or whether, (if the individual be of tender years,) his acquirements at the school will be of service to him under indentures? The question, what trades or employments will be most likely to make profitable returns, seems quite too narrow to connect with so benevolent a scheme as yours. If your site affords facilities for it, I should hope you would make *scientific agriculture* a leading employment. This business is so easily taught, and so many of its principles and operations are obvious to the senses, that instruction might be cheaply supplied. I believe that most of the thriving English industrial schools require, at least, three or four hours of each day to be given to agricultural labor; and the reason for such a course would be much stronger *here*, where land is cheap and labor in demand, than *there*, where no land is to be had in fee, and labor is a drug.

4. In respect to *instruction*, I must express my firm conviction that more depends upon it than upon any (I may almost say upon *all*) the other arrangements of the institution; and it is, moreover, that in which you will be most likely to fail. I apprehend that very few human minds can be found that have not a *natural craving for knowledge*. A teacher, even of depraved boys, may win their affection, in some degree, if he succeeds in revealing to them their own capacities of enjoyment in the pursuit and attainment of knowledge, or in imparting to them a single new idea. And I presume you will agree with me, that a teacher who has acquired influence over his pupil, by exciting his intellectual powers, or furnishing his mind with stores of valuable knowledge, has peculiar advantages for inculcating the truths of religion and morality.

If such an institution as you contemplate can secure the services of a teacher, who is able and disposed to make the most of his office for the development of the intellectual and moral man,—the influence of such a one upon a company of boys, placed as yours will be, is incalculable. It has been too common, perhaps, to consider the hours given to instruction as of less value to the institution, because no pecuniary advantage is derived. Especially is this the case where the labor of the inmates is "*farmed out*" to contractors, (as it is at our Refuge,) and where, of course, every abridgment of the hours assigned to labor is followed by a corresponding curtailment of profit. So of girls, where the doing of housework, such as washing, cooking, scrubbing, &c., devolves on this department. In both these cases, there is danger that *instruction* will be regarded as a *subordinate* object.

I believe that it is in the power of a teacher, by the mere exercise of skill in the method of communicating knowledge, to acquire a complete mastery over 150 or 200 boys, of ordinary capacity and respectable character. And it would be in his power, by the legitimate use of this influence, to maintain the general discipline of the institution, impart a great amount of the most important moral and religious instruction, and, of course, most effectually to advance the great end of the institution—*the radical reformation of vicious youth*. Difficult and

important as is the post of a principal, I should think a defect in *his* qualifications might be supplied, to some extent, by the labors of the teacher; but nothing can compensate for a serious defect in the teacher.

Letter from Hon. S. B. WOODWARD, M. D.

(COPY.)

NORTHAMPTON, Oct. 12, 1846.

HON. A. DWIGHT FOSTER :

DEAR SIR,—I received your kind letter of the 22d September, accompanied by the circular of the Commissioners of the State Manual Labor School, and have examined the inquiries with some care and great interest.

I have great hopes of good from this institution; I believe it to be founded on true principles, and its results, if rightly established and conducted, cannot fail to be highly beneficial.

Most of the unfortunate class, for which it is intended, need to be reëducated, and not punished. With a sufficient trial, I am confident a large proportion may be reformed, and become useful citizens.

Many, doubtless, have active propensities to vice, which must be detected and removed, or counteracting principles be established, and made predominant in the character. My belief is, that the elements of virtue, honesty, industry and usefulness, are to be found in every individual; with some, they become active principles without effort; with others, they need fostering, and must be excited to activity. A large proportion of the vicious are made so by the circumstances in which they are placed, and the influences which reach them in one way or another, and model the character. One of the difficulties with which you will have to contend, probably, will be to induce the Legislature to make the period of the commitment sufficiently long to effect all the objects desirable. A short resi-

dence in the institution would be of little benefit. One year should be the shortest time of confinement, and two or three will be much better, as considerable time must, inevitably, be required to produce the change that will be desirable; to unlearn bad habits, and learn and establish good ones. On this, will greatly depend the ultimate success of the institution.

The change from the old system of punishments to this of reformation, presupposes that certain individuals in society have begun life wrong; that they are of so susceptible an age as to be capable of change,—to be educated anew; what is evil may be eradicated from their minds, and good principles and correct habits established in their stead.

The design of this institution is to collect them together, under the best influences to effect this change. A long period will be necessary to render it certain that a radical change is produced, and to accomplish the object fully.

If such individuals are sent abroad into the world, before this new system has been fully tried, relapses into vicious courses will be frequent, and bring discredit on the design, instead of securing public favor.

The individuals committed to this institution should not have any definite period of confinement, but be subject to discharge when they are fully prepared to go abroad with honor to themselves and benefit to the public. If the *trustees* and *managers* of the institution feel that the enlargement of an individual confined would be dangerous to the well-being of society, he ought to be detained till they are satisfied that society will not suffer from his enlargement, and that he has a fair prospect of usefulness and respectability.

The location at Westboro', I have no doubt, is judicious, and the farm and scenery suitable for the object; the community is also a good one to aid in the benevolent design. Every advantage will here be secured that can be derived from central location, goodness of soil, and accessibility.

The buildings should have a central edifice of three stories, including a high basement, mostly out of the ground, and two parallel wings, running back, with or without a colonnade front. The stories should be of medium height, in this climate;

the lower and upper not less than *ten* feet, the middle *twelve*, with a high and capacious attic, to subserve the purpose of ventilation.

In the basement of the centre building may be located the office of the managers, the kitchen, laundry, store-rooms, and rooms for the furnaces, and dining-rooms for the inmates.

In the second story, the school-rooms, dining-rooms for the manager and his family, chaplain and teachers, chapel, apartments for the officers, &c. In the upper story, may be the single and associated dormitories, clothing-rooms, and store-rooms for articles made.

The wings may be two stories high, with capacious attics. In them may be lodging-rooms, workshops and store-rooms.

It may be necessary to have some strong rooms in the wings, for refractory persons, and as the first lodging of those who have committed high offences.

The whole building should be thoroughly warmed and ventilated. In the country, and for this class of individuals, who will not occupy the apartments extensively in the day-time, the common mode of ventilation will probably be all that the commissioners will recommend; and, if rightly devised and constructed, may answer the purpose well, although the artificial and forced ventilation is the most perfect and effectual. The ventilating flues should be connected with the warming apparatus, and the passages for the *ingress* and *egress* of air should be spacious, so that the changes of air shall be rapid and frequent, and the temperature not high. The orifices for the transmission of impure air should be in the inner walls, and never in the outer. If steam should be used in the domestic or mechanical operations of the establishment, it may be made subservient to the purpose of warming. It has also a tendency to moisten the atmosphere of the apartments,—a matter of some importance in a crowded house; but it does not assist to ventilate, which makes it objectionable as a reliable means of warming extensively.

The Commissioners will doubtless build of stone or brick. The former is preferable, if it is at hand, and can be obtained at a reasonable price. To make a stone wall dry, it must be furred

out, and furring on brick is better than the hollow wall, unless it be for a prison or insane hospital, where furring is objectionable. I attach no importance to the hollow wall, so common in Massachusetts: it has less security, admits cold, and adds little, if any thing, to the dryness of the apartment.

An iron or tin roof is best, and slate the cheapest. Cast-iron roofs cost about fifteen or sixteen cents a square foot; tin, painted, about ten cents, and slate about eight cents. If the roof is to be flat, tin is best; if steep, slate makes a good roof, if the best material is selected. The Welch slate is decidedly better than the Vermont slate.

In the rear of these buildings, parallel with the centre, and at right angles with the wings, may be located the out-buildings, and heavy gates and fence may be added to make an enclosure of this area, which may be desirable. A prison appearance should be avoided; but strength, durability and security are desirable. Large dormitories are objectionable, in any establishment. Rooms, accommodating from ten to twenty, are large enough for this purpose; and great care should be taken to ventilate these in the best manner possible.

Eight hundred cubic feet of space, with ordinary ventilation, is little enough for one individual.

In most cases, each individual should have a bed by himself, in some cases double beds may be equally well. Bedsteads, with boards or slats for bottoms, are the best, and cotton mattresses the very best articles for beds, both pleasant and cheap. The price of a cot-bed is from three to four dollars, and the cotton, after it ceases to be useful for beds, is worth half price for paper.

A bed may be fitted up entirely, with covering, change of sheets and pillows, blankets, or comforters, for twelve dollars, including the bedstead,—perhaps for ten dollars. The very best article of cotton beds is made at Lowell, by Nathan Crosby, Esq., formerly agent of the Massachusetts Temperance Society.

2d inquiry. In answer to your second inquiry, my impression is, that individuals, under 12 years should not be subject to ignominious punishment for offences of any character whatever; certainly not for any, excepting murder; and I should

have some doubts, whether even this high offence should be excepted. It is better to try this new principle extensively, make a full experiment, instruct and reform, but not punish.

Do by those of this tender age, whose education has been neglected, or who have been badly taught, as a parent would do by a son who should exhibit a disposition to vice or evil habits; caution them, advise them, admonish, and, if necessary, restrain them; but do not abandon them, nor break their spirit by severe infliction. In a large proportion of these cases, improvement and reformation will follow the use of judicious management.

From the age of 12 to 16, for minor offences, this system should be adopted instead of punishment, nor would I limit the trial of this benevolent plan to 16. It is difficult to say where the line shall be drawn, and how old a youth shall be to be consigned to punishment, instead of a trial of this system of instruction. My opinion is that simple punishment, unattended by instruction, rarely, if ever, results in reformation; it may deter the culprit from pursuing his vicious courses for the present, but its effects will not be permanent, unless good principles be, at the same time, inculcated, and made to produce a permanent impression on the mind. Those prison-keepers who have been the greatest tyrants, and who have discarded moral and religious instruction, can boast of few reformed convicts; they have no confidence in reformation, because they see little or nothing of it. But those who punish little, but instruct and govern by the law of kindness, have a goodly number on their lists, who have reformed and become good citizens.

If, for high crimes, the young shall be subjected to the State Prison, or House of Correction, after the expiration of sentence there, it will be very useful for them to have a year or two in the State Manual Labor School, that they too may be educated and reformed.

3d inquiry. Both sexes, under proper management, and with proper restraints, may, with propriety, be admitted into the establishment, especially as, at present, there is but little prospect of two. One must be tried first, and, if any difficulty is found in managing the sexes together, they can be separated

afterwards, in two establishments. In most things, they may be kept separate; but in school, in chapel, and, with strict supervision, in domestic labor, they may not only come together with propriety, but with advantage. Each sex, in proper intercourse, has a favorable influence on the other; and no evil will arise from their coming together, if their conduct towards each other is made to conform to the strictest rules of propriety and decorum. If females are excluded from this school, there will be no resort for them, if wayward and vicious, but the House of Correction or other places of punishment.

Females in prisons do not usually exceed ten per cent. of the whole number of inmates. In this institution, the proportion would probably be less.

If found to have swerved from the strict rules of virtue, their influence is, if possible, more corrupting than that of males, while they are, generally, more susceptible of good impressions and more generally reformed, under good influences. It would be most unfortunate, if they could not receive equal advantages for instruction and reformation. I cannot but hope they will not be excluded from this school.

4th inquiry. All delinquents, under 16 years of age, who are arraigned for crimes, should, at least, have the benefit of this institution. I am not ready to say that boys of 16, who are intelligent, should not receive punishment for high crimes,—the establishment of this asylum does not pre-suppose that the inmates of it are not guilty, and could not do better. Such individuals ought not again to go into society, unless there is full evidence of amendment, till they shall receive the instruction and discipline here afforded.

Some classification of the inmates will doubtless be necessary in this institution, for it will hardly be proper, that all should associate together on being admitted. There will be contaminating individuals in spite of the strictest regulations and most vigilant inspection. Such should sleep in separate apartments, and never associate with the better class, till their minds are favorably influenced, and symptoms of reformation are apparent.

It may be necessary to have a few separate dormitories, made strong, for this class, when first admitted, and for such as prove

refractory and disorderly during their residence here. Yet, inducements should always be held out to the vilest to do better, by presenting motives, such as advancement to better classes, improvement of condition, some indulgences, and suitable rewards for good conduct.

5th inquiry. The courts would seem to be the most suitable tribunals to commit persons to this institution, and, probably, this course will be most satisfactory to friends and to the public. But higher courts are not always in session, and a trial could not always be had immediately, which, in many cases, would be desirable, when the individual is arraigned for a minor offence, to prevent the necessity of committing to prison to await trial.

In offences of a more aggravated character, the higher courts should undoubtedly commit; and imprisonments, to await trial for a season, might be attended by more good than evil.

Perhaps, in the former cases, the judges of probate, one justice quorum, or two justices of the peace, might commit,—their decision being approved, if the friends desire it, by the higher courts, at the next session after, on their petition.

I cannot devise a better mode than this, as I think there should be high responsibility in the tribunal which should, in any case, be authorized to deprive an individual of his liberty.

6th inquiry. The number of inmates, for which it will be necessary to provide, will be influenced by the number of offences for which persons shall be committed here, the ages to which inmates shall be limited, and the duration of their residence; also, whether Boston is to be included, or whether their institutions are to be distinct and separate.

Exclusive of Boston, and supposing that females are to be admitted, two hundred will be the smallest number for which provision should be made.

If the asylum should be successful in the selection of its principal manager, there will be no difficulty in controlling and instructing, in a proper manner, two hundred inmates.

7th inquiry. When such individuals as have had a fair trial of the reformatory education of this school shall be discharged, and go abroad, to commence anew the duties of life, they

should, as far as possible, be placed out of the way of temptation.

It is desirable that they should find employment with good men, who will encourage them to pursue a life of virtue and industry. On the farm, in the workshop, the manufactory, or on shipboard, they should at once commence employment, as soon as they are discharged; and no temptation should induce them to be idle for a single week, till they have commenced the new career of life, on which their future well-being and usefulness will depend. Small sums of money may be given to them; but alone it will do them little good, and much would be likely to do them harm. If they immediately seek employment, they will require but little; and this they should be taught to do, as affording their only hope and security for future good.

After a while, if the school produces the results desired, it will be sought as a place to procure good laborers, and the personal services of those ready to be discharged will be in demand for the farm, mechanical employments, and domestic labor.

8th inquiry. The inmates of this institution should be the adopted children of the Commonwealth, and should remain members of it, till they are thoroughly instructed, mentally and morally. If they are restrained for this purpose, it will be no greater hardship than parents exercise, who compel their own children to attend school, and submit to the rules and discipline there adopted.

If it be practicable, they should be sent to the school, as patients are sent to the State Lunatic Hospital, to be discharged "in due course of law," and not for any limited period; but, if the period must be limited, considering what is necessary to be accomplished, let it be a long one. The object of the institution will be defeated if the period of confinement shall be short, and the inmates leave the school when half instructed, however well it may be conducted.

The discharge should take place only when, to a competent board of directors, there shall be satisfactory evidence of a thorough change of character, and that the individual may go abroad advantageously to himself, and without detriment to the community.

9th inquiry. The subject of the general management of such a school is of primary importance, and demands much consideration and reflection.

Occupation is one of the first matters for consideration; for no one should be idle whose health will permit him to labor.

Agricultural and horticultural employments are amongst the best for persons of this character; and if it shall be decided that all shall work at trades, who are competent to learn them and pursue them to advantage, then will there still be a large number incompetent to learn them, so as to do any profitable labor at them.

The difficulty of furnishing employment in winter will make it necessary to introduce, as extensively as practicable, trades and mechanical labor. Some, who work on the land in summer, may be employed, in some department of mechanical labor, in winter.

The trades that can be advantageously introduced, are shoe-making, tailoring, cabinet-making, blacksmithing, machine-making, mat-making, stocking-weaving, &c. For girls, making garments, mantua-making, straw-braiding, and domestic labor in all departments of housewifery.

These trades may be easily learned, and should be pursued, partly to furnish healthy and useful employment, but principally to prepare those engaged in them for the means of future support and usefulness. Few men prefer idleness to industry, and fewer, still, a career of vice to honesty and respectability, who have been educated in good, industrious habits.

So far as regards discipline, *system* is every thing in such an establishment. This should be strictly and closely adhered to in every thing. Rotation of labor, instruction, recreation, eating and sleeping, may occupy the whole time, so that it will not pass heavily; and habits, thus formed, will be easily continued, and produce, after a while, an established character.

In cases of delinquency, admonition, advice and reproof should be fully tried, with kindness of manner and affectionate interest, before severity be resorted to.

Punishment, if it must be admitted, should be, in the first place, privation of privilege, loss of caste, solitary confinement

for a short season, accompanied by every encouragement of which the case will allow, and restoration to all former enjoyments and privileges, on a promise of reformation.

In a few cases, corporal infliction, of some sort, may be necessary; but these must be rare, if other appliances to produce amendment are conducted in a judicious manner, and with a proper spirit

If punishment must be inflicted, let it be executed in solitude, with none present but officers and instructors.

Witnessing punishment hardens the heart, arouses the animal spirits, and awakens combativeness. So, also, the presence of companions often increases stubbornness, excites a brava-do spirit, and makes the victim of misrule more unyielding and perverse.

In short, punishments should be as rare as possible, and yet should be inflicted, whenever they are threatened, with decision and promptness. Obedience to proper authority is essential to government, whether of families or kingdoms, and nowhere more necessary than in schools;—and in this, certainly, no less than others. But punishment should always be inflicted when the mind is calm, and the feelings kind and equable. Commencing in the right, those who execute punishments should never suffer themselves to get in the wrong, by allowing passion to have any influence upon their tempers.

The name of *school* is very appropriately applied to this institution; for training and educating the intellect and moral powers should be the principal object of the establishment.

For this purpose, the schoolmaster must be introduced. Every individual should be instructed; none should leave till they can read and write, and understand common arithmetic.

A portion of each day should be spent in the school, as well as in the workshop and on the farm; and no suitable occasion should be lost to inculcate right principles upon the mind, and to enforce truth and honesty as the only guide to happiness.

The Bible should be in the hands of all who can read, and reading of a portion of it, daily, be enforced as a duty.

The institution should not commence without a chaplain, who, at first, at least, may be the teacher. Besides regular

services on the Sabbath, he can do much good by conversing with individuals or groups, and enforcing moral and religious truths.

Much judgment and discrimination are necessary, in this department of discipline. It requires much wisdom to know when to urge moral truths, and when to withhold ; too much effort to enforce such subjects upon the mind sometimes produces reaction, and sometimes a lasting prejudice and distaste for religious teaching.

Great reliance, however, may be placed on religious instruction, if suitably and judiciously enforced, to win the affections and quicken the conscience,—not to alarm and agitate,—but to exhibit the beauty of holiness, the excellency of virtue ; to inspire self-respect, respect for others, and right feelings towards our Father in Heaven, and a just estimate of our relation to Him.

The law of kindness should be the all-pervading code of this establishment. No officer should be allowed to use any harsh or violent language, and profanity and vulgarity should be entirely excluded. So should, also, all intoxicating drinks, tobacco, and every such evil habit, by the strictest regulations.

Courtesy between officers, and between officers and inmates, should be inculcated ; kind words cost nothing, but are of great value in inspiring respect, and have much influence in rendering government easy.

The subject of health is of great importance in such an institution, and should be constantly in view, from the first commencement of architectural arrangements, to the completion of the code of laws that are to govern the establishment.

A plain, simple, substantial diet should be established, consisting of considerable variety of healthful food.

Animal food should be used once a day ; and bread, of the best quality, should be dealt to the inmates, with an unsparing hand. Tea, coffee or cocoa warm, with milk, is a better drink, with cold food, than cold water ; water is the best drink for the thirsty man when at labor, and is altogether suitable, with warm food. Fruits should be allowed, when in abundance, every day.

Nothing so frequently produces discontent and a rebellious spirit, as a deficiency of food or an improper diet. "Hunger will break through stone walls." Persons in confinement often complain, with reason, of their diet; too little attention is given to it, by overseers of such institutions; the food is too frequently of a bad quality, badly cooked, or served cold.

Baths are also of importance to health, and should be used frequently, especially by those who pursue dirty trades; each individual, in health, should have a bath once a week; and, in warm weather, a daily bath is healthful and agreeable. At the lake may be easily constructed baths of every description, at a moderate expense.

In most places of confinement, too little attention is paid to *clothing* and *bedding*; they are often insufficient, and, more frequently still, dirty and even filthy. Too much attention cannot be paid to this important matter of health. Amusements, recreation, and holidays are not to be overlooked, in their influence upon health and contentment of mind.

I have written hastily, and, to some extent, bunglingly, but I have no time to copy. If you find, in this long and tedious communication, sufficient to induce you to read it, and a single suggestion worthy of the consideration of the commissioners, I shall be rewarded for the time devoted in writing it.

Very truly and respectfully yours,

S. B. WOODWARD.

Letter from SIMON GREENLEAF, LL.D., Professor of Law in Harvard University.

(COPY.)

BOSTON, November 16, 1846.

GENTLEMEN,—Your circular of September 19 did not reach me in season for a reply so early as October 15, but I now avail myself of the first leisure for that purpose, in the hope that it may not yet be too late. I do not propose to trouble you with

any thing more than the *results* I have come to upon the questions you propound, in their order.

1. As to the plan of buildings, it is out of the range of my pursuits.

2. I doubt the propriety of admitting any persons above fifteen years old, into an institution for *juvenile offenders*, unless in special cases of conviction before a criminal court. I think that former character should be taken into account, at least so far as to exclude second offenders, and, perhaps, so far as to exclude persons previously convicted of any crime.

3. I would admit *males only*.

4. I think the institution should be open to *all classes* of offenders, *i. e.*, without distinction as to the nature of the offence.

5. Let courts commit, after conviction; and give justices of the peace and judges of probate power to commit, upon petition of parents or selectmen, &c.

6. This can be better answered by those acquainted with the state of the criminal calendar. But, to hazard a guess, I should say *one hundred*, at first, with capacity for enlargement at diminished expense.

7. I think that no lad should go from the establishment without a merited testimonial of good conduct, nor without either a paternal home to go to, where he will be properly cared for, or being put out as an apprentice, or under some equivalent relation; never to be sent out at large without "a place."

8. As the object is "reformation," I think no one should be discharged till "reformed."

In regard to the last general request for suggestions, I am of opinion that the *government* should be *paternal*, with no other than *fatherly* correction. The *trades* I would suggest, are agriculture, and light but useful handicrafts, not requiring much outlay of capital. For *instruction*, I would have the *Bible* an indispensable daily reading book, to be read with the particular seriousness which is due to it as God's own word and will. It is my firm belief, the result of more than forty years' observation, that to the daily and reverent use of the Bible in our common schools, as the inspired revelation of the will of God, we

are more indebted for all that is valuable in New England character, than to any other source whatever. It is my opinion that the rest of the instruction should be confined to what is practically useful in common life, such as reading, writing, common arithmetic, geography, common field surveying, &c.

I offer these few hints with diffidence and without apology, because you request it, and remain,

With great respect, your obedient servant,

SIMON GREENLEAF.

HON. A. D. FOSTER,

ROBERT RANTOUL,

S. H. WALLEY, JR.

Commissioners, &c.

Letter from DANIEL CHANDLER, Esq.

SOUTH BOSTON, Oct. 9th, 1846.

GENTLEMEN,—The following answers to the several interrogatories contained in the circular you have done the honor of addressing me, are respectfully submitted.

1st. In answer to your first interrogatory, as to a plan of construction, &c., I herewith send you a sketch of the lower floor, and front view, of an edifice, which seems to me best calculated for the purposes contemplated.

2d. As to "the limit of age, beyond which none should be admitted," I should fix it, as a general rule, never to exceed seventeen years; although I think great discrimination should be practised, in admitting boys over fifteen or sixteen years of age.

As to whether "former character should be taken into account, &c.," I consider it to be a question of great importance; experience having taught me that boys, (especially large ones,) who have been accustomed to vicious habits, are very likely to have a demoralizing influence upon their companions, espe-

cially those who are younger and well disposed ; consequently, the injury done to others, far outweighs the benefit they would be likely to receive themselves. Therefore great caution should be used, in admitting large boys of known bad character, or, in a short time, the number of the incorrigible will accumulate to such an extent, as to render the institution difficult to manage, without resorting to more of a prison discipline, than is desirable.

Therefore age, size, and local circumstances, must be considered in determining the question. By local circumstances, I refer to influence of parents, former companions, and to local temptations, whether in the city or country.

3d. "Should the institution be for lads only, or should girls be admitted?" It is my opinion, it should be for lads only : or, if girls are admitted, they should occupy an entirely separate building, at a distance from that for the boys ; for I find, by past experience, that where the sexes are in the same building, or even at a short distance from each other, they are continually forming schemes for improper communication, which has a corrupting influence upon both.

4th. To the question, "whether there should be a distinction as to the classes of offences, &c.," it is my opinion, that the first juvenile offence, however great, does not furnish sufficient cause for the abandonment of all moral means : as the misdeed is quite as likely to have been the result of incautionness, or surrounding influences, as from a disposition so vitiated as to render reform hopeless. Therefore, repeated and highly aggravated offences seem to me to form just grounds for distinction.

5th. As to whether "commitments should be made by courts alone, or by others," it is my present opinion that the courts should have jurisdiction over that class of cases called juvenile offences, except at times when the courts are not in session, or in towns where no courts are held ; in which case, it might be well to extend the jurisdiction to justices of the peace, with the right of appeal, &c. In some cases it might be desirable, (if constitutional,) to have a private examination, to which only those interested should be admitted, which would enable a boy

to enter and enjoy the benefit of the institution, without the degradation of a public trial.

6th. As to the accommodations, &c., I think ample provisions should be made for from two hundred and fifty to three hundred ; as is indicated by the accompanying plan, or sketch : which number I think will fully accommodate the State for the present.

7th. Respecting "what provision should be made for such boys as shall be discharged from the institution," I think great care should be taken to secure good places, (for such as are not given up to parents or friends,) at some mechanical or farming business, to which they should be indented during their minority : the managers acting as their guardians, always keeping in mind what seems to me very important, that is, the selection of a business, or trade, suited to the inclinations and taste of the boy.

In the selection of situations, other things being equal, preference should be given to those situated at a distance from the place where the offence was committed ; that they may be removed, as far as possible, from all evil associations connected therewith.

It would also be desirable for the managers to have power to apprentice lads in towns situated out of the State ; likewise to send large boys to sea, without indentures, when they are of that class that cannot be recommended for apprenticeship ; for it has been found, in all institutions of the kind, that there are some admitted, who prove to be so viciously inclined, and hardened in crime, as to endanger the peace of society, should they be apprenticed.

Thirteen years of practical experience, in the supervision of a similar class of boys, at the Farm School, and House of Reformation for Juvenile Offenders at South Boston, has fully proved the fact, that a much greater proportion of the cases where boys who have gone out from those institutions have fallen back into their former vices, are from among such as have been put to places in cities, or large, compact villages, where they are, to a certain extent, unavoidably exposed to

many temptations; hence the propriety of removing them, as far as possible, from all scenes or places of the kind.

8th. To the question, "what shall entitle to a discharge," I should say good behavior,—good in that sense, that they have thereby secured the confidence and respect of those placed over them, and likewise good evidence of a complete reformation in character.

9th. As to the "general management of the institution," &c.

1st. *Discipline.* Much depends upon a well conducted, judicious plan of discipline or mode of government, without which no benefit will result, but rather evil. Bringing together a large number of boys who have long been addicted to bad habits of life, will, without proper discipline is maintained, enable them to corrupt each other. No code of rules can be adopted in enforcing discipline which will equally and invariably apply in all cases; it requires tact, discrimination, foresight, and sound judgment in the disciplinarian, to adjust it to the capacity, circumstances, and state of mind of the boy. It should be, as far as possible, like that of a well regulated family,—*mild*, but *firm* and persuasive. All should be treated ordinarily with equal kindness and attention; thereby showing a special individual regard for each.

I find few boys so constituted as not to be influenced by kind treatment; it is likewise the most effectual means of obtaining another very important object,—that of a cheerful and respectful obedience, which, for all the purposes of reform, is incomparably better than any compulsory mode.

I judge from the fact, that since the abandonment, in most instances, of corporeal punishment at the House of Reformation, at South Boston, and the substitution of a milder and more persuasive means, the general conduct of the boys has very much improved, and the care of supervision changed, from a comparative task, to that of pleasure. Physical force will produce temporary obedience, but nothing but the moral education of the *heart* can produce a permanent change of character,—all modes of discipline which fail to accomplish this, are worthless. I am not to be understood as meaning that there are not instances where corporeal punishment should be used as the last

resort, but, when used, it should be for the double purpose of correction and example.

2d. *Employment.* All who are in health should be fully employed during six hours of the day ; principally at shop-work, gardening, or farming. All boys when first received into the institution, should be put to shop-work, as affording a better opportunity of learning their character and disposition, also being less liable for escapes and better calculated for discipline, than farm work ; which can be done by the best class of boys, as they are found to be trustworthy.

3d. *Trades.* I judge, from experience, that shoe-making, chair-bottoming, and brush-making, are some of the trades best suited to the circumstances and condition of this class of boys.

4th. *Instruction.* This is your last interrogatory, though not least in importance. Under this head, moral instruction should rank first. All the boys who are able to read, should attend daily to the reading of the *Bible*,—acknowledge God before and after meals,—and all, both officers and pupils, should attend morning and evening prayers ; likewise the Sabbath school and meeting on the Sabbath. They should be taught strictly to observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

As education and employment bear an important part in the reformation of juvenile offenders, the time of each week-day should be divided as follows, viz. : Six hours for work, three in the forenoon and three in the afternoon,—four hours for schooling, two in the fore-part and two in the after-part of the day, where they should be taught the same branches of a common school education, that are taught in our public schools.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your humble servant,

DANIEL CHANDLER.

To the Hon. A. D. FOSTER,

ROBERT RANTOUL,

SAMUEL H. WALLEY,

Commissioners, &c.

Letter from Hon. THEODORE LYMAN.

No. 1. Construction of Buildings.—The buildings should have iron or stone staircases, wide passageways, and easy and obvious means of escape in case of fire, especially from the sleeping rooms. And the rooms and the parts remote and little visited, so finished that they cannot be set fire to, as the incendiary propensity is very strong with some boys.

Means for warming and ventilating should be provided in the plans, so that the proper flues can be built into the walls. No art has improved so much the last ten years as that of ventilating. A work published in this country, by Dr. Wyman, and an English work by Walter Bernan, civil engineer, both recent and both on warming and ventilating, may be consulted to great advantage with respect to those subjects.

No. 2. Age of admission.—*If former character to be considered.* Not over 14 years. Boys of that age are difficult to manage. If they have been for some time in a vicious course, they become, by 14 or 15, hardened, bad themselves, and very fit to make others bad. Not much attention to be paid to former character as to admissions; for the object of the school is a general one, namely, to employ, instruct and reform juvenile offenders. The exceptions under this general rule, as to admissions, should be in cases of boys that have shown a very depraved disposition; for a few boys of that description in the school might much retard, if not prevent, the reform of others, and get no good themselves. Where the probability is very strong that a boy is not susceptible of reformation, he should not be admitted, because the probability is greater that he will do harm to others than that he will derive benefit himself.

No. 3. Sex.—For lads at first. If the institution proves successful, a building may afterwards be added for girls. Reference can be had to that object in selecting a situation for the buildings for the boys, the sexes being kept far separate.

No. 4. Offences.—No rule, except where the offence manifests great and especially deliberate depravity. As was said

under No. 2, such boys are very difficult to manage, their example often does great harm to other boys, and, as the object of the institution is to reform, it is proper and necessary to take into account all the circumstances or considerations that may prevent, retard, or diminish the reform, or the improvement of the greatest number.

No. 5. Commitments.—By courts alone. The institution should be considered a place of punishment as well as a place for reform, and as under the authority of the State. It will, otherwise, do little good. If thought to be a school and farm, where boys are only obliged to learn and to work, many boys will not be unwilling to go, and still more parents will not be unwilling that their boys should go. I should give no character of disgraceful punishment to the institution, but the character of a State school, with an established system of rules of government and discipline, where boys are received because they are not fit to be at large, and where they are kept and trained till they are considered fit to be restored to society.

No. 6. Number.—Provision first made for one hundred, with arrangements to extend, if required.

No. 7. Provision for discharge.—It is desirable to obtain situations for the boys, with a certificate of good conduct and with suitable clothing. Whether a sum of money should be added, must depend on the circumstances of each case. But the time of the discharge of a boy is a critical moment for him, and it is just then that efforts should be made to furnish him with respectable occupation, and to keep him, and to enable him to keep himself, out of the way of former habits and associates. A few hours of neglect or inattention at this period, may undo months of care and good conduct.

No. 8. What shall entitle to a discharge.—This is again a question depending for its answer on the circumstances of each case. In other words, it is in each case a matter of discretion. The rule is that the boy shall serve out his time, and the exceptions to this rule should be extraordinary ones. No power should be used with more caution in public places of punishment than the power to pardon, for no power is more liable to abuse.

As to the four last topics, viz., discipline, trades, employment and instruction, they are all, so to speak, practical topics, and, in regard to them, the opinions of practical men, such as the superintendents of houses for juvenile offenders, will be found to be most valuable, more especially as it respects the first topic, discipline. As to trades, it is desirable to avoid, to some degree, sedentary ones,—such as shoemaking and tailoring, on account of the health of the boys.

The institution should have a carpenter's shop, and a forge, if for no other purpose, at least for that of mending the tools (and, perhaps, making them,) belonging to the establishment.

Amusements should be *regularly* provided for the boys. Games of ball, skating, coasting, &c. All the boys should be practised in singing; and such as have a voice and an ear, should be taught, at least, the rudiments of music. A piece of ground should be set apart for a garden, where the vegetables for the houses should be regularly and neatly cultivated; also, for a few common flowers and the common fruits cultivated in gardens; and the boys, or a portion of them, should be trained to the care of these gardens, and taught to feel an interest, not only in the pursuit itself, but in the gardens.

The general business of the school will be agriculture; but in the winter months, more time will be given to the instruction of the boys, not only in the common branches of education, but it may be, also, in some mechanical trades.

Letter from FRANCIS GEORGE SHAW, Esq.

WEST ROXBURY, Oct. 10, 1846.

SAMUEL H. WALLEY, Jr., Esq., Commissioner, &c.

MY DEAR SIR,—I received with much pleasure the circular respecting the proposed State Manual Labor School, and trust that the course pursued by the Commissioners will have elicited much valuable information.

I subjoin such suggestions as have presented themselves to my mind on reading the questions contained in the circular.

1. As to the plan of construction. The only suggestion I feel competent to make is, that each inmate have a separate sleeping-room,—so constructed as to be secure and capable of being fastened on the outside,—not of the character of a cell, yet strong, and simple in its arrangements. The public rooms to be in a main building, capable of enlargement when required, and the kitchen, store-room, &c., to be in the basement of the wing first built; the upper floors of which are to contain the sleeping-rooms. The workshops to be in a range behind the dwelling, and accessible by a covered way; the buildings relating to the farm to be still farther off, and approached in the same manner.

2. The object of the institution being to save those sent to it from further contamination, and so to prevent their becoming a charge upon the State as criminals, I should consider the age of twelve as a suitable limit beyond which admission should not be allowed, except in cases where offences have been committed solely from the pressure of want, and former character should be considered by the managers in all subjects above that age. I would say, that all children under twelve, convicted of offences against the laws, should be received without question, but that the managers should have a veto when, in their opinion, the admission of any one over that age would be a positive injury to the institution. The age of twelve seems to me old enough for children brought up in Boston and vicinity, but it might be extended to fourteen for those from the rural districts of the State. I should consider it desirable, moreover, that all youths sent to the school should be required to pass a month's probation before being admitted to its full advantages; after which, the managers can determine if they shall be so admitted.

3. Girls should also be received at the school, but should be under entirely separate care, and have no communication with the boys, except at meals and public meetings.

4. No special rule can, in my opinion, be laid down with regard to the nature of offences, but in no case should those who are idiotic or decidedly wanting in intellect, be admitted; and the discovery of any such case should be a sufficient reason for immediately transferring the subject to the almshouse of the

city or town in which his or her legal residence may be, or to the State Lunatic Hospital.

5. Commitments should be made by the courts and by the legal authorities of any city or town, also by justices of the peace in places where there is no police court, but in the latter case with the concurrence of the authorities: and no justice should be allowed to send a child to a house of correction without such concurrence. Destitute children should be sent to the school, even if they commit no offence against the laws; indeed, in my opinion, they should have a right to go there.

6. The wing first built should contain accommodations for one hundred inmates, and the plan of the building should be such that it can be increased so as to accommodate four hundred, which number should not be exceeded.

7. The proper provision for such youth as shall be discharged would, in my opinion, be State manufactories, in which the various trades taught at the school shall be carried on; such manufactories should be erected by the State, be provided with the best machinery, and placed under the charge of skilful and experienced superintendents. The necessary raw material should be purchased, the laborers boarded and clothed by capital provided by the State, and the products disposed of by competent persons. At stated periods, the accounts of each manufactory should be made up, the cost of materials and other expenses credited to the State, with interest on the fixed capital, and a proper allowance for wear and tear, and the balance should be divided among the laborers in a ratio determined by themselves, but subject to correction by trustees appointed for the purposes of general supervision.

I am aware that it will appear an immense undertaking to carry this plan into operation, but I can at present conceive of no other manner in which the question under consideration can be satisfactorily answered.

8. The completion of the term for which an individual shall have been committed, (which should never be less than one year, and the minimum of which, in my opinion, had better be three years than one,) should entitle him or her to a discharge, when served with uniform good conduct; but the man-

agers should have the power to lengthen the term, when they consider any individual unfit to be discharged, and that he would, if free, resort to criminal courses; but their decisions, in such cases, shall be subject to the approval of some person appointed to examine into them.

9. The service of the house should be performed by the inmates in rotation; there should be as many trades as practicable introduced, in order that the children may have a choice of work, and they should be allowed to vary their occupations, even several times in the same day, going in classes from the school to the farm, and thence to the work-shops, and from one shop to another. The farm should be carried on as much by manual labor as possible, so as to be more like a garden than a farm. I am convinced that better results to the inmates can be obtained by having the whole under the general superintendence of a woman, than if the chief manager were a man. My opinion on this point is founded on the results obtained, or said to have been obtained, in prisons, and on the greater influence of women over boys, who will constitute the larger proportion of the inmates. The subordinates, having charge of the various departments, to be male or female, as the case may be, but these stations to be filled by the inmates as soon as practicable. I would, if possible, have some system adopted by which the inmates shall receive pecuniary benefit from their labor, and be incited to industry and good conduct by the hope of laying up some provision for themselves, to be available when discharged. I can make no better reply to the general question under consideration, than in the words of an esteemed friend of great experience:—

“I would suggest that the entire management of the institution be based on the idea of *attracting* to improvement by the increase of privileges, and not on the usual theory of deterring from wrong by prohibition and penalty. Corporal punishment ought not to be allowed in any form, under any circumstances. Seclusion and the loss of customary privileges should, in my judgment, be the only consequences of improper conduct. But, above all, have the system of *reward*,—reward for every bad habit broken, for every deficiency overcome. I would have

access to a pleasant library one of the privileges granted for certain improvements and performances. I would have the privilege of witnessing curious experiments in Natural Philosophy, with simple explanations, another reward for good conduct. I would have a singing school and teaching on instruments; and have the concert-room open twice a week to those who had done as well as they could."

I will only add, that, to answer the questions contained in the circular with accuracy, so that the answers would themselves be of service, would require more practice and experience than has been my lot, and I have not attempted it. I offer the foregoing solely as hints, and very crude ones, from which I hope something of good may be gathered.

That such may be the case, and that, from the information in possession of the Commissioners, they may produce a plan worthy of the great and important subject committed to them, is, dear sir, the sincere wish of

Your friend and servant,

FRANCIS GEORGE SHAW.

Resolves for erecting the State Reform School Buildings.

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint a Board of three Commissioners, who shall cause to be erected, on such site, upon any part of the farm in Westborough, recently obtained by gift to the Commonwealth, as they may judge best, a building or buildings suitable for the accommodation of a Superintendent and Steward, with their families, and a Teacher or Teachers, and capable of accommodating three hundred boys; and that said Commissioners shall have power to make all necessary contracts for, and to appoint agents to superintend the erection of the same. And said Commissioners shall present all their accounts to the Governor and Council, to be by them audited and allowed, from time to time, as they shall deem just.

Resolved, That, for the purpose of defraying the expenses to be incurred under the previous resolve, his Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby authorized, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, to draw his warrants, from time to time, upon the Treasurer of this Commonwealth, for the necessary sums of money, not exceeding, in the whole, thirty-five thousand dollars, in addition to the sum already appropriated by a resolve passed on the sixteenth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-six.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand dollars, remaining in the hands of the Commissioners, being the balance of the donation of ten thousand dollars to the Commonwealth, be appropriated for permanent improvements for the benefit of said school, and be expended under the direction, and at the discretion, of the Trustees.

Resolved, That, for the purpose of stocking, improving, and cultivating said farm at Westborough, for the current year, the sum of one thousand dollars be appropriated; and his Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby authorized, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, to draw his warrant upon the Treasurer of the Commonwealth for the same.
[Approved, April 9, 1847.]

An Act to establish the State Reform School.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

SECT. 1. There shall be established, in the town of Westborough, in the county of Worcester, on the land conveyed to the Commonwealth for the purpose, a school for the instruction, employment, and reformation of juvenile offenders, to be called the State Reform School; and the government of said school shall be vested in a board of seven trustees, to be appointed and commissioned by the Governor, by and with the advice of the Council.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of said board of trustees to take charge of the general interests of the institution; to see that its affairs are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Legislature, and of such by-laws as the board may, from time to time, adopt, for the orderly and economical management of its concerns; to see that strict discipline is maintained therein; to provide employment for the inmates, and bind them out, discharge or remand them, as is hereinafter provided; to appoint a superintendent, a steward, a teacher or teachers, and such other officers as, in their judgment, the wants of the institution may require; to prescribe the duties of the superintendent and other officers; to exercise a vigilant supervision over the institution, its officers and inmates; to remove such officers at pleasure and appoint others in their stead; and to determine the salaries to be paid to the officers respectively,—subject, in all cases, to the approval of the Governor and Council. The trustees shall also prepare, and submit to the inspection of the Governor and Council, a code of by-laws, which shall not be valid until sanctioned by them. The by-laws may subsequently be enlarged or amended by the assent of five members of the board of trustees, at any legal meeting of said board, and not otherwise; but no alteration shall be valid, until it shall have been approved by the Governor and Council.

SECT. 3. As soon as the Governor shall have been notified,

by the commissioners to be appointed under a Resolve "for erecting the State Reform School Buildings," that said buildings are prepared for occupancy, he shall forthwith issue his proclamation giving public notice of the fact.

SECT. 4. After proclamation shall have been made, as provided in the third section of this act, when any boy under the age of sixteen years shall be convicted of any offence, known to the laws of this Commonwealth, and punishable by imprisonment, other than such as may be punished by imprisonment for life, the court or justice, as the case may be, before whom such conviction shall be had, may, at their discretion, sentence such boy to the State Reform School, or to such punishment as is now provided by law for the same offence. And if the sentence shall be to the Reform School, then it shall be in the alternative, to the State Reform School, or to such punishment as would have been awarded if this act had not been passed.

SECT. 5. Any boy, so convicted and sent to said school, shall there be kept, disciplined, instructed, employed, and governed, under the direction of said board of trustees, until he shall be either reformed and discharged, or shall be bound out by said trustees, according to their by-laws, or shall be remanded to prison under the sentence of the court as incorrigible, upon information of the trustees, as hereinafter provided.

SECT. 6. If any boy shall, upon any conviction, be sentenced to said school, and the trustees, or any two of them in the absence of the others, shall deem it inexpedient to receive him, or if he shall be found incorrigible, or his continuance in the school shall be deemed prejudicial to the management and discipline thereof, they shall certify the same upon the mittimus by virtue of which he is held, which mittimus, together with the boy, shall be delivered to the sheriff of any county, or his deputy, or to the constable of any town, who shall forthwith commit said boy to the jail, house of correction, or State prison, as the case may be, in pursuance of the alternative sentence provided for in the preceding section of this act.

SECT. 7. All commitments to this institution of boys, of whatever age when committed, shall be for a term not longer than during their minority, nor less than one year, unless sooner

discharged by order of the trustees, as hereinbefore provided ; and whenever any boy shall be discharged therefrom by the expiration of his term of commitment, or as reformed, or as having arrived at the age of twenty-one years, such discharge shall be a full and complete release from all penalties and disabilities which may have been created by such sentence.

SECT. 8. The trustees of this school shall have power to bind out all boys committed to their charge, for any term of time during the period for which they shall have been committed, as apprentices or servants, to any inhabitants of this Commonwealth ; and the said trustees, and master or mistress, apprentice or servant, shall, respectively, have all the rights and privileges, and be subject to all the duties, set forth in the eightieth chapter of the Revised Statutes, in the same manner as if said binding or apprenticing were made by overseers of the poor.

SECT. 9. The trustees shall cause the boys under their charge to be instructed in piety and morality, and in such branches of useful knowledge as shall be adapted to their age and capacity ; they shall also be instructed in some regular course of labor, either mechanical, manufacturing, agricultural or horticultural, or a combination of these, as shall be best suited to their age and strength, disposition and capacity ; also, such other arts and trades as may seem to them best adapted to secure the reformation, amendment, and future benefit of the boys ; and, in binding out the inmates, the trustees shall have scrupulous regard to the religious and moral character of those to whom they are to be bound, to the end that they may secure to the boys the benefit of a good example and wholesome instruction, and the sure means of improvement in virtue and knowledge, and thus the opportunity of becoming intelligent, moral, useful, and happy citizens of this Commonwealth.

SECT. 10. The superintendent, with such subordinate officers as the trustees shall appoint, shall have the charge and custody of the boys. He shall himself be a constant resident at the institution, and shall discipline, govern, instruct, and employ, and use his best endeavors to reform the inmates, in such manner as, while preserving their health, will secure the forma-

tion, as far as possible, of moral, religious, and industrious habits, and regular, thorough progress and improvement in their studies, trades, and various employments.

SECT. 11. The superintendent shall have the charge of the lands, buildings, furniture, tools, implements, stock, and provisions, and every other species of property pertaining to the institution within the precincts thereof. He shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office, give a bond to the Commonwealth, with sureties satisfactory to the Governor and Council, in the sum of two thousand dollars, conditioned that he shall faithfully account for all moneys received by him as superintendent, and faithfully perform all the duties incumbent on him as such. He shall keep, in suitable books, regular and complete accounts of all his receipts and expenditures, and of all property entrusted to him, showing the income and expenses of the institution; and he shall account to the treasurer, in such manner as the trustees may require, for all moneys received by him, from the proceeds of the farm, or otherwise. His books, and all documents relating to the school, shall, at all times, be open to the inspection of the trustees, who shall, at least once in every six months, carefully examine the said books and accounts, and the vouchers and documents connected therewith, and make a record of the result of such examination. He shall keep a register, containing the name and age of each boy, and the circumstances connected with his early history; and he shall add such facts as may come to his knowledge relating to the subsequent history of said boy, while at the institution, and after he shall have left it.

SECT. 12. All contracts on account of the institution shall be made by the superintendent in writing, and, when approved by the trustees, if their by-laws require it, shall be binding in law, and the superintendent, or his successor, may sue or be sued thereon to final judgment and execution; and no such suit shall abate by reason of the office of superintendent becoming vacant, pending such suit, but any successor of the superintendent may take upon himself the prosecution or defence thereof, and, upon motion of the adverse party, and notice, he shall be required so to do.

SECT. 13. There shall be a treasurer, to be appointed by the Governor and Council, who shall, before he enters upon the discharge of the duties of his office, give a bond to the Commonwealth, with sureties satisfactory to the Governor and Council, in the sum of three thousand dollars, conditioned that he shall faithfully account for all money received by him as treasurer; which bond, and also that of the superintendent, when approved, shall be filed in the office of the treasurer and receiver general.

SECT. 14. The board of trustees shall be appointed forthwith, and they shall take charge of the farm in Westborough which belongs to the Commonwealth, except so much thereof as shall be needed for the purposes of the commissioners for the erection of the buildings. When the Governor shall have made proclamation that the buildings are ready for occupancy, the school and the buildings shall be at once in the charge of the trustees.

When two years shall have expired after the first appointment of a board of trustees, two trustees shall be appointed and commissioned annually; and, for this purpose, the places of the two senior members, as they stand arranged in their commission, shall be thereafter annually vacated. No trustee shall receive any compensation for his services; but he shall be allowed the amount of expenses incurred by him in the discharge of the duties of his office.

SECT. 15. One or more of the trustees shall visit the school at least once in every two weeks, at which time the boys shall be examined in the school-room and work-shop, and the register shall be inspected. A record shall be regularly kept, of these visits, in the books of the superintendent.

Once in every three months, the school, in all its departments, shall be thoroughly examined by a majority of the board of trustees, and a report made, showing the results of these examinations. Annually, in the month of December, an abstract of these quarterly reports shall be prepared, which, together with a full report by the superintendent, shall be laid before the Governor and Council, for the information of the Legislature. The treasurer shall also submit, at the same time, a financial

statement, furnishing an accurate detailed account of the receipts and expenditures for the year terminating on the last day of the month of November next preceding. [*Approved, April 9, 1847.*]

MESSAGE.

To the Senate :

I transmit herewith to the Honorable Senate, for the use of the Legislature, the Report of the Commissioners for "erecting the State Reform School Buildings."

GEO. N. BRIGGS.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, January 26, 1848.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

To His Excellency GEORGE N. BRIGGS, *Governor, and to the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :*

The Commissioners for erecting the State Reform School Buildings at Westborough, were appointed April 17, 1847. Some delay occurred in organizing the commission, as it was doubtful whether one of the Commissioners could serve. On the eleventh of May, they met at Westborough, and, having previously obtained, from the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the plans and explanations furnished to the Legislature of 1847 by the Commissioners for selecting and purchasing a farm, they placed the same in the hands of Elias Carter, Esq., of Springfield, and James S. Savage, Esq., of Southborough, architects and builders of skill and character, who did not propose to contract for the erection of the build-

ings, and desired them to estimate the expense of such buildings as those plans and explanations proposed.

On the 25th of May another meeting was held, and the estimates of Messrs. Carter & Savage were found to exceed the appropriation made by the Legislature. They were requested to revise their calculations, and report on the third day of June. At that time it appeared that it was impossible that the cost of the buildings proposed should not exceed the appropriation.

The Resolves appeared to the Commissioners to be imperative in requiring accommodations for three hundred boys. The plans were, on the whole, satisfactory to them, and they felt justified in causing buildings to be erected according to those plans, although the cost should exceed the amount appropriated. But knowing that the former Commissioners, relying upon the architect who drew the plans, had stated to the Legislature that the sum of forty-five thousand dollars would cover all the expense of erecting the buildings, the present Commissioners directed Messrs. Carter & Savage, (whom they had engaged to superintend the work of erecting said buildings,) to offer the contract, at that sum, to the architect who drew the plans. He declined taking it, but said he would make an offer with others. The plans and explanations, several omissions having been directed to reduce the expense, were accordingly submitted to other competent builders, and several offers (including one at sixty-two thousand five hundred dollars, from the original designer of the plans,) were made, varying in amount from sixty-five thousand to fifty-two thousand dollars. The lowest offer having been made by a competent and responsible builder, Mr. Daniel Davies, of Boston, the contract was made with him, on the fifteenth day of June. On the same day the Commissioners selected, on the farm, the site for the buildings. As soon thereafter as was practicable, the work was commenced, and has been successfully prosecuted, until the buildings are erected, so far as regards walls and roof, and the windows are put in, temporarily, to secure the whole from injury by the weather. It is believed that, thus far, the work has been done as well, as rapidly, and as satisfactorily, as circumstances would permit. The time stipulated in the contract,

for the work to be completed, is the first day of December next; but, from present appearances, it is probable that it may be done a month or two earlier.

At the solicitation of many persons, among whom were the trustees of the reform school, the Commissioners restored parts of the building, which they had directed to be omitted, and this will add four hundred and seventy-five dollars to the expense.

The contract with Mr. Davies does not cover the furnishing of water. This, in abundance, is indispensable in all large establishments, and necessary in every house; especially is this true of all establishments where many young persons live. It is doubtful in what way it can here be best supplied. A well has been dug, which it was necessary to sink very deep, and the water, as yet, has a mineral taste, and it is feared, will never be suitable for drinking and culinary uses. It is proposed to have one or more large cisterns, to save the water from the roofs; but so much water will be required, that it is still a matter of inquiry, whether it will not be advisable to bring it by pipes, and by forcing-engines, from the pond. The Commissioners understand that the Resolves contemplate their procuring furniture, for the apartments of the superintendent, the steward, and the boys, though these items were not included in the estimate furnished to the last Legislature. The requisition seemed imperative, to provide a *building for three hundred* boys; but it is not supposed that furniture ought, at first, to be provided for more than *one hundred*. This the Commissioners propose to do; and, in regard to the schoolroom, to do it in the best plain manner. In regard to all other furniture, it is proposed to have it strong, plain, and neat. As it may be uncertain what trades will first be introduced, and the tools and apparatus, for such trades as are usually carried on in such institutions, are not very expensive, and are easily procurable, it is proposed to leave the workshop unfurnished, except with some such apparatus as will certainly be needed. The grading around the buildings is not included in the contract, except so far as is requisite for the security of the walls and the levelling of the enclosed area. It is supposed that the Commissioners will be expected to see this done, so far as to make the access

to the buildings convenient, and to leave the grounds, immediately around the buildings, in a good condition for subsequent cultivation or ornament. The object of the Commissioners has been, and is, to expend as little as may be for mere ornament, but to have every thing done in the most convenient and substantial manner. For the necessary purposes above specified, and for the expenses of superintendence, (which is not increased by the employment of two gentlemen instead of one,) and for the expenses of the Commissioners, an additional appropriation will be required.

Of the \$45,000, heretofore appropriated, \$30,000 have been drawn from the treasury, and actually expended and paid.

The Commissioners wish to present a true account of every thing which they suppose requisite to be done, and not to under-rate or over-rate the cost. But their estimates must be, necessarily, imperfect, and may be unintentionally deceptive. According to the estimate they have made, there will be required, to complete the buildings and prepare them for occupancy, in addition to the sum now appropriated and in the treasury, a further sum of twenty-one thousand dollars.

Respectfully submitted by

A. D. FOSTER,
ROB'T RANTOUL,
L. POMEROY,

Commissioners.

Boston, January 25, 1848.

Resolve concerning the State Reform School Buildings.

Resolved, That, for the purpose of completing the Reform School Buildings, and furnishing the same, for the superintendent, steward, and one hundred boys, in addition to former appropriations, there be hereby appropriated the sum of twenty-one thousand dollars; and the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, is hereby authorized to draw his war-

rant therefor on the Treasurer of this Commonwealth, in favor of the Commissioners for erecting said buildings. [*Approved, April 1, 1848.*]

Resolves in Aid of the State Reform School.

Resolved, That, whenever the Trustees of the State Reform School shall certify, to the Governor and Council, that the sum of ten thousand dollars has been paid into their hands, then a like sum of ten thousand dollars shall be paid from the Treasury of the Commonwealth; which said sums, united, shall constitute a fund, the income of which shall be expended, at the discretion of the Trustees, for the benefit of the State Reform School.

Resolved, That the further sum of eight thousand dollars shall be paid to the said Trustees of the State Reform School, for the erection and repairs of farm-buildings, for purchase of farm-stock and farming implements, for payments of salaries, and for purchase of clothing for the Institution, and that warrants be drawn for the above purposes accordingly. [*Approved, April 25, 1848.*]

An Act concerning the State Reform School.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

SECT. 1. The Trustees of the State Reform School, for the time being, shall be a corporation, by the name of the Trustees of the State Reform School, for the purpose of taking and holding, to themselves and their successors, in trust for the Commonwealth, any grant or devise of lands, and any donation or bequest of money, or other personal property, which has been, or may hereafter be, made for the use of said Institution, and for the purpose of preserving and investing the proceeds of any

such grant, devise, donation, or bequest, in notes or bonds, secured by good and sufficient mortgages, or in other securities, with all the powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes aforesaid.

SECT. 2. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.
[*Approved, May 10, 1848.*]

AN

A D D R E S S

AT

THE DEDICATION

OF THE

STATE REFORM SCHOOL,

IN WESTBOROUGH, MASS.

DECEMBER 7, 1848.

BY EMORY WASHBURN.

BOSTON:

DUTTON AND WENTWORTH, STATE PRINTERS,

No. 37, Congress Street.

1849.

A D D R E S S .

THE occasion which calls us together forms an epoch in the domestic history of our Commonwealth. The experiment which is here begun is full of interest to every generous mind. It presents the State in her true relation, of a parent seeking out her erring children, and laying aside the stern severity of justice while struggling for their reform.

There is a fitness that this first experiment, in this country, by an entire body politic, to reform the young by an institution for punitive discipline, should be made by Massachusetts. Where the first free school was planted, and the first institution for ministering to the mind diseased, of the poor and rich alike, was reared at the public charge, it is but the crowning of the work to go out into the highways and the hedges to bring in the wayward and the wandering, that they may be restored to the paths of safety. In a Commonwealth blessed with churches and hospitals, and noble charities, as no other community of equal extent has ever been, there was still wanting an institution which should go up to the fountain-head of vice, and misery, and crime, and purify the bitter waters that are spreading their poisonous influences through every city, and village, and hamlet, within her borders. And such an institution, we may confidently trust, will this prove, which

we are met to dedicate. It will be a monument of the beneficence of the State, but not less so of private munificence. It will stand one of the most honorable, if not the most honored, memorial of such munificence, of which this Commonwealth, rich in such memorials, can boast.

The benefactor, to whose bounty the Commonwealth chiefly owes this beautiful estate, has illustrated, as few have done, some of the noblest precepts of his Divine Master. Not only has he sought out the lost wanderers from the fold of Christian sympathy, not only have the sick been visited, and they who are in prison ministered unto, but the left hand has scarcely been permitted to know what his right hand has done. No pharisaic trumpet has proclaimed his deeds of charity, and his reward can only be the consciousness of the uncounted good which is to flow from them to generations yet unborn.

If there is pleasure in marking the development of beauty in the world around us, by the creation of taste and skill, how much higher must be his satisfaction, who sees moral beauty springing up beneath his creative touch, and the waste places of God's heritage blossoming into life under his fostering care !

Among the circumstances which serve to mark the progress of our race, are the modifications which have taken place, from time to time, in the administration of the criminal law. If we go back comparatively a few years only, in the history of the civilized world, we find cruelties inflicted under the forms of law alike revolting and absurd. We see, amongst the continental nations, and those, too, the most refined, the rack and the wheel, wringing, by the agony of torture, confessions alike, from the innocent and the guilty victims of suspicion or State policy. We see the law striking hands with bigotry and fanaticism, and

offering up, at the stake, men of whom the age was not worthy. The disgusting barbarity of drawing and quartering traitors to the king has often and again presented scenes upon English soil, at which a North American savage might hang his head in shame. And all these, and cruelties not less atrocious, have been perpetrated at noon-day, under the name and guise of public justice. Even as late as the days of Blackstone, who was cotemporary with our own Revolution, there were an hundred and sixty offences declared and punished by the English law as capital.

The true object of punishment seems to have been lost sight of. One would suppose that the State, in its thirst for cruelty, had volunteered to do the work of revenge for every private injury which any citizen might suffer at the hands of another,—the mingled compound of Shylock and Iago in the great drama of real life.

The idea of *reforming* the guilty seems scarcely to have entered the mind of the lawgiver. Whoever passed the threshold of a prison, and breathed the pestilential atmosphere of that den of sin and suffering, came back, if he came at all, the fit companion of its wretched inmates. Men, even before conviction, became well-nigh outlaws, the moment the vengeance of the law,—for, towards the criminal, it had no mercies,—had fixed its suspicions upon them. Whoever has read what Howard did in the cause of prison reform, or the sickening scenes which, at a later day, that female Howard, Mrs. Frye, has described in the narratives of her missions of mercy, needs not that I should justify these remarks by the details which well-nigh every prison in Europe would furnish. And yet, it should be remembered, that Howard's "circumnavigation of charity" was closed within the memory of many living wit-

nesses, while the developments brought out by Mrs. Frye are a part of the history of our own times.

For some reason, the spirit of criminal justice seems to have been almost always behind the age in which it was administered. The public mind rarely troubled itself about what concerned so few, and they, in general, so degraded. It was enough, that a system had been sanctified by age to demand for it undoubting confidence. A singular illustration of this principle has been furnished by the fact that it was not till within our own day, that that most absurd of all forms of trial, "wager of battle," ceased to form a part of the system of administering justice in England, under the common law of that kingdom.* Such forms, like the dogmas of religion, are apt to get such a hold upon the public mind that few are bold enough to scrutinize the foundation on which they rest.

Nor is our own history without its lessons of painful interest upon this subject. Our ancestors embraced some of the most liberal and best educated minds of their day. In the dogmas of polemical divinity, in the deep metaphysics of the schools, and in the strong, rough encounter of vigorous intellects, there were few superior to the men who were to be found in the pulpits of New England, and among her early legislators. But her codes of law were bloody, and, though she had judges and courts of justice, there were few whose minds had been trained to the law as a science, and there was little in the habits of the public mind to soften the stern severity of those codes.

Let me borrow an illustration from that history. Let me, for that purpose, take you back to a period only twice the lifetime of many now upon the stage. We should

* It was abrogated by act of Parliament in 1819, having been claimed in Thornton's case, upon an appeal for murder, in 1818.

find the highest court in the Province in solemn assembly. An old man, whose locks have been whitened by more than eighty winters, has been arraigned before that grave tribunal. He is called upon to plead to an indictment, which charges him with witchcraft. But he refuses—he is silent. Unmoved by the glaring, gloating eyes of the multitude around him, he stands mute, and answers not a word. There was a process once known to the common law, the very name of which was borrowed from the barbarous Norman, called "*Peine forte et dure*," which was only applied when a prisoner refused to plead. It consisted in subjecting the offender to the pressure of heavy weights, till his torture compelled him to make answer. That process, for his thus standing mute, is ordered against that old man. He is laid prostrate, and weights are heaped upon him till he is literally crushed to death. And yet, that scene was witnessed in the goodly Christian town of Salem, and no one questioned the propriety or justice of so barbarous a murder—for it was done in the name, and under the forms, of law.

Witchcraft and torture have passed away, but the relics of a barbarous age remained amongst us till within the memory of many a living witness, in the exhibitions of whipping, and cropping, and branding, in which Justice exhibited herself before gaping multitudes, in every shire town in Massachusetts. The law sent forth the criminal, with its stamp of infamy upon him, as indelible as the mark of Cain. Wherever he went, he was shunned as an object of aversion and distrust. He moved among his fellow-men a living warning and example, frightening a few, and brutalizing all. Not only was war thus made by society upon those whom it had punished, but it was a war that brought with it no hope of peace. Reformation!—the law knew not

that there was such a word in the science of punishment. Restoration to society!—it was as hopeless for the mutilated wretch, as it was for the leper in Israel, to find a welcome at the festive board! Nor can we wonder, that men, who were thus hunted like wolves, should have preyed, in their turn, upon society that had made them outlaws.

A great step was taken in the progress of improvement by substituting the confinement and labor of the penitentiary, for the brutal punishment to which I have alluded. And it is with pleasure, that I add, that for this, the world is indebted to the United States, and especially to Pennsylvania. But even that was, for a long time, grossly defective, by an entire ignorance or disregard of the principles of proper classification of criminals. The description given by Sidney Smith, in 1821, of English prisons, unfortunately was applicable to our own in too many particulars. “There are,” said he, “in every county in England, large public schools maintained, at the expense of the county, for the encouragement of profligacy and vice, and for providing a proper succession of housebreakers, profligates, and thieves. They are schools, too, conducted without the smallest degree of partiality or favor, there being no man, however mean his birth, or obscure his situation, who may not easily procure admission to them. The moment any young person evinces the slightest propensity for these pursuits, he is provided with food, clothing, and lodging, and put to his studies under the most accomplished thieves and cut-throats the county can supply.”

Since that time, the grosser enormities of the system have been corrected. Prison Discipline has been made the subject of scientific investigation, and though it has, at times, awakened angry discussions, there is reason to hope that the cause of truth and humanity will at length prevail.

Notwithstanding the attention which has been awakened to the importance of a proper classification and isolation of prisoners, there has been too little regard paid to one of the most important of these principles—the age of the offender. The law adopts something like an arbitrary rule as to the age at which criminal responsibility shall begin, and, having done so, regards all persons as within the same category, in respect to the general nature of the punishment which it prescribes for the various classes of offences. The discrimination which ought to be made in the matter of age and maturity of intellect, has, in too many cases, especially in the early history of penitentiary discipline, been sadly overlooked.

On the continent of Europe, the rule as to the period in life when criminal responsibility shall begin varies in various states, some leaving it an open question, to be determined in each particular case, and others fixing an arbitrary period when the presumption of a legal discretion shall be assumed.

In England, the common law is understood to regard an infant, if above seven years of age, as capable of committing a felony, though not necessarily to be presumed of sufficient discretion to be held criminally responsible, until the age of fourteen. Between these ages, whether the infant is of guilty capacity or not, is to be settled like other questions of fact arising in the case. The history of the English law furnishes instances where children, eight and ten years of age, have been indicted, convicted, and executed, for capital offences. Even as late as 1846, as stated by the distinguished Secretary of the Prison Discipline Society in Massachusetts, a boy, said by him to be six and a half years of age, (probably, however, supposed by the court to be seven, at least,) was sentenced, in one of the

English counties, to imprisonment for the term of seven years for stealing the paltry sum of one shilling and an halfpenny.

A system, therefore, that should regard children of such a tender age as equally amenable to punishment as the old and hardened offender, would be violating one of the first principles of the science of prison discipline, as well as of common humanity.

However obnoxious the laws of our own and other countries may have been to the charge of disregarding the obvious principles of justice, in discriminating between different classes of offenders, it is a matter of just congratulation, that the subject is at last awakening an attention, on both sides of the Atlantic, that cannot fail to produce important results. This is especially true in regard to the treatment of juvenile offenders. All over Germany, in many parts of France, and in some of the states of Italy, there is a growing interest in the question. Writers of great learning and ability are there found, who are not only engaged in discussing the modes and extent of juvenile reform, but are endeavoring to throw light upon the whole subject of criminal punishment. Among these writers, I would refer to Professor Mettermair, of Heidelberg, whose essays upon these subjects have been made accessible to the American public, through accurate translations. In an article, republished a few years since, in one of our leading Law Periodicals, he gives a hasty outline of the institutions, in many of the continental states, for the punishment and reform of the young. In some few of these states, there have been prisons where there has been a separation, for many years, between the juvenile and adult inmates. But institutions, peculiarly for young offenders, have been chiefly the result of modern and recent efforts. Few of them date

earlier than 1833, and many of them are much more recent. The editor of Beaumont and De Tocqueville's Report on the Penitentiary System of the United States, has given a brief sketch of the early history of these in Germany, and a correspondent of the New York Observer has, within a few weeks, offered the public much interesting information upon the subject of houses of reform for vicious children, both in France and Germany. He enumerates not less than from fifteen to twenty in the former kingdom, twenty-two in Wirtemberg, nineteen in Prussia, three in Hanover, and three in the Duchy of Baden.

Nor has this subject been disregarded in England. Though the comparison made by Howard, between the prisons on the continent and those of England, was, in many respects, greatly in favor of the former; and though, from the reports of Mrs. Frye, and Sir T. Fowell Buxton, the English prisons are far from keeping pace with many of her noble charities, yet we find, here and there, an institution of which she may justly be proud.

Among the most distinguished of the correctional establishments for the reform of criminal and vicious children, to which I have referred, I have only time to mention that near Hamburg, of which the eloquent Secretary of the Board of Education here, has given so graphic and interesting an account; that at Mettray, in France; and that at Parkhurst, in England. In the best and most successful of these institutions, the inmates are employed, either exclusively in agriculture, or in agricultural and mechanical pursuits combined; for observation has shown, that it is by such employments that their moral condition is the most likely to be improved, and their physical health preserved.

The number, however, of these institutions is no farther important for this occasion, than as it serves to show the

awakening interest which the Old World is taking in one of the measures of progress which distinguish the age in which we live.

But, while one class of philanthropists are thus active in their work, there is, and always has been, from the days of Aristotle down to the last newspaper essayist, a class of philosophers who have been speculating, not only upon the proper aims of punishment, but upon the right that society has to punish at all. By one of these theories, the object of punishment is to deter others from the commission of new crimes by the example of suffering which is made consequent upon a crime already committed. This theory regards the influence, which punishment may have upon the guilty party, as of secondary or no importance, while there are others who maintain that the main purpose to be sought in punishing, should be the reformation of the offender himself.

Those who embrace the latter doctrine are apt to regard the man, who is to suffer the penalty of a violated law, as more unfortunate than guilty, and many have even gone so far as to treat all crime in the nature of a moral disease, and to maintain that it should be subjected to the curative appliances of a hospital, rather than the disgrace and discomfort of a prison.

The true theory probably lies between these extremes, although it may be difficult to fix precisely where to draw the line. Puffendorf, to quote from a familiar authority, declares that "the true end and design of punishment, inflicted by human courts, is to prevent the wrongs and injuries that men are apprehensive of, one from another, which prevention is, in some measure, obtained, if either the offender be amended, or others, from his example, discouraged from offending, or himself incapacitated to do so for the future."

And Beccaria, another familiar author, says, "the end of punishment is no other than to prevent the criminal from doing further injury to society, and to prevent others from committing the like offence."

I might weary you still further, by quotations from the opinions of courts, and the works of ethical writers, upon this subject. But it is sufficient for our present purposes, to assume, that, in the infliction of punishment, both the public and the individual ought to be regarded. While, by example from the suffering of the guilty, the innocent are deterred from crime, the guilty, themselves, ought, if possible, to be saved and restored back to usefulness and respectability.

In order, however, to the attainment of these ends, the nature of crime ought itself to be understood. By some, it is regarded as the emanation of innate depravity, manifesting itself in violence or fraud. And crime, in this view, is but the particular phase in which the general corruption of our natures is developed through the want of adequate counteracting moral influences.

With some, the fault is not so much a moral one as it is an unfortunate cerebral conformation, which, by the force of physical laws, gives an undue preponderance to certain of the human passions, at the expense of the moral sentiments. This, certainly, is a simple and easy solution of what has long puzzled sage moralists, and seems to have found great favor with a class of male and female philosophers, who have been urging on the progress of the race, of late years, by their physiological and psychological discoveries.

There is still another class of philanthropists, like Eugene Sue, and his kindred French Novelists, whose moral lessons form so large a share of our yellow-covered litera-

ture, who trace to the bad organization of society, itself, most of the crimes which it seeks to punish. They see wealth and poverty—Dives and Lazarus—side by side, the powerful trampling upon the weak, and vice spreading its nets on every hand, to catch the unwary, and they hold society responsible for these as the sources and incentives of crime.

Neither of these theories is probably wholly true, nor altogether false. Otherwise, if the first were true, we should have the solecism of men making war collectively, and in masses, upon the very habits which their instincts and inclinations, as individuals, were constantly urging them to sustain. If the second be a sound view, it would be difficult to reconcile, to the common mind, the seeming inconsistency of holding a man morally accountable for the accident of a physical malconformation of his organs. And if the last were correct, the administration of what is called justice ought to be suspended till society itself should be radically reformed. There is, however, enough of truth, in each of these theories, to furnish important hints in the investigation of this interesting subject.

If we take the example of a single child, it would not be difficult to analyze the general laws by which its character for good or evil is fashioned. We all know the power of education in developing, modifying, and strengthening its intellectual powers, as well as its moral qualities. We know, too, how strong are external influences and associations in forming what we call character. The children of one family in a neighborhood grow up refined, while those of another are never able, wholly, to surmount the vulgarities which they imbibe in early life. Though external circumstances thus help to educate the child, they may be aided or retarded, in their effect, by a dulness or quickness

consequent upon some peculiar organ in the condition of the brain. It is equally true, that, as a moral agent, there are passions and propensities in his nature, which, if not mastered or regulated by discipline, will, themselves, become his masters.

Upon what are purely external circumstances, as well as upon the means of temptation which influence these passions, society may exert a strong control. And, to that extent, it ought to be held responsible. It has no more right to suffer a child to grow up in the vices which ignorance begets, for the want of schools, than to compel him to steal food, as his only resort for the means of subsistence. If intemperance sows the seeds of crime in a community, the *right* to punish the crime is no less obvious than the *duty* that society owes to itself, and to its members, to suppress the distillery and the dram-shop. So, if idleness is found to be the inseparable companion of vice, and if that vice disturbs the peace or safety of society, the right, as well as the duty, of the body politic to counteract it, by enforcing some active employment, results from the very constitution of a state.

I am speaking, it will be perceived, of the alleged faults, on the part of society, in failing to furnish incentives to good, and to suppress the incentives to evil. It ought not, however, to be overlooked, that the machinery of government was never designed to regulate the personal and private duties of its citizens beyond their effect upon others around them. But, so far as there are general laws bearing upon the great causes of crime and poverty, society fails of its trust, if it neglect to exercise over these whatever control it can command. How the law shall interpose, is often a difficult question. Undoubtedly, the best, and by far the most powerful influence, is exerted upon the moral

condition of a state, through the medium of well-regulated families. The influence of the mother, for good or evil, over the young mind, is well-nigh omnipotent. If mothers were all what they ought to be, and what many of them are, I apprehend there would be little occasion to study how to punish crime in the young.

Next to that of the family, is the moral discipline of well-regulated schools. The maintenance of these is one of the admitted duties of a free state. But, unfortunately, experience has shown, that neither of these influences, as we find them, are adequate to eradicate crime. There are, in every community, counteracting causes at work, and it is in controlling these that society needs wisdom and energy. The family is often the school of vice rather than virtue. Home, instead of being, as it may be, though humble, the abode of peace and love, is, too often, the scene of filth and wretchedness, and domestic broils. And the children of both the rich and poor too often avoid the discipline of the school altogether, or suffer its influence to be destroyed by bad associations and perverse wills.

With these prolific sources of crime, it is in vain to hope to check the evil till the State shall come in and act, as it ought to do, the part of a wise and considerate parent. When it can take its children from the control of bad fathers and mothers, when it can subject them to the discipline of good schools and religious instruction, and remove them from the contaminations of vicious example, when it can give to all, the habits of industry, and the means of useful employment, then may it hope to see its laws respected, its interests prosperous, and its people happy.

Whatever question might be raised as to the expediency of interposing the sovereignty of the State in any particular case, to restrain the vicious from contaminating others, we

have only to apply the principle on this occasion to the condition of those who have been convicted of some actual crime.

If it shall be thought that I have been unnecessarily tedious, in endeavoring to establish truths to which there must be a general assent, my apology must be that these truths lie so nearly at the foundation of the whole system of schools of reform, like that which we are now met to dedicate, that I did not feel at liberty to omit them altogether, nor to assume them to be self-evident.

It is proposed, by schools like this, to remove those from the reach of temptation, so far as may be, who have been led astray by the undisciplined passions of youth, or the more resistless power of corrupt associates, by educating and training them to useful trades and employments, and thereby giving them the means of acquiring personal independence. It is proposed, by the discipline which awaits them here, to quicken the torpid action of conscience, by calling into play the moral sentiments which have been suffered to lie dormant. Here is to be held out, even to the desperate, the gladsome light of hope, while, in the degraded and down-cast, a consciousness of self-respect and self-reliance is to be cherished, which shall elevate them to the dignity of true manhood.

To this end, the law, under which this institution has been opened, has made provision whereby, substantially, all under the age of sixteen, who shall have been convicted of crime, shall find here rather a refuge from danger than a prison for punishment. It is neither to wear the name, nor to breed the moral miasma, of a prison. It aims, by discipline, to fit its inmates for the honorable duties of life, and to restore them back to society, to merit, and to share its rewards. Here religion, with its precepts and its promises,

will reach the intellects, and, may we not hope, touch the hearts of those who may be gathered here. Here the instructions of the schoolroom will open, to the minds of the ignorant, the blessings and delights of knowledge. Here, far away from the pestilential atmosphere of the drunkard's home, where the sound of the orgies of the dram-shop never reach,—where no theatre opens its pit or gallery to entrap the unwary by its fascinations,—away from the oaths and ribaldry with which vice holds revel in the dens and stews of the crowded city,—washed clean of the filth with which vicious poverty defiles its children, the boy may learn the new lesson of useful employment, and, at last, go forth with the habits of industry, of purity, and self-respect, to forget, in after-life, the sad experience of his childhood.

Such an institution, I repeat, is worthy of the State by which it has been founded. It is but in keeping with the genius of her other institutions for the relief, the education, and the elevation of her children. New York, it is true, had preceded her in the establishment of a penal institution for the reform of the young; and Philadelphia, almost simultaneously with Boston, had also, by several years, anticipated this institution, by houses of reformation and refuge.* But neither the houses of refuge in New York, nor Philadelphia, were properly state institutions. The states lent them their aid, but they were private enterprises, and managed by private corporations. If I mistake not, therefore, this enterprise is the first in our country, whereby a state, in the character of a common parent, has

* The House of Reformation, in New York, was incorporated March 29, 1824. The House of Refuge, in Philadelphia, was incorporated March 28, 1826, but no inmates were admitted to it till December 8, 1828. The House of Reformation, in Boston, was established under an act passed in the winter of 1826, and went into operation in August of that year.

undertaken the high and sacred duty of rescuing and restoring her lost children, not so much by the terrors of the law, as by the gentler influence of the school. And, though I have almost felt as if it would be a violation of good taste to weigh the expense, in dollars and cents, of redeeming a fellow-being from the blighting influence of bad associations and corrupt example, yet, in a mere economical point of view, this enterprise has a high claim upon public favor. I have never seen an estimate of the cost occasioned to any state, by the crimes committed within it, and the arrest, trial, punishment, and support of its criminals. But a moment's reflection would satisfy the mind of any one, that, in a government like ours, the charge which these impose upon the industry of the community must be heavy indeed. When, therefore, we remember that every one who shall here be reformed, is not only relieving the State from the expense of his support, but is adding his industry to the aggregate wealth which is to bear the burden, we shall see that, as a mere question of profit and loss, the State has a deep stake in the establishment and success of this institution.

Add to all this, in adopting the present measure, she did but follow the lead of public feeling. The subject was first directly brought before the Legislature in the winter of 1846, by the petitions of many of her citizens, and among them, the chief justice of her court of common pleas. When, in addition to that, we recal the fact to which I have already alluded, that donations, in aid of the measure, from a single individual, of more than \$22,000, were so freely and so honorably offered, we may confidently assume, that, in planting this institution, the government carry with them the sympathies of their best citizens.

It was felt, that a school like this was imperatively

needed. With a population more dense than that of any of her sister states ; with a metropolis ranking, in point of numbers, among the first class of the cities in our country ; with cities and villages scattered all over her territory, and teeming with active life, gathering within its crowded masses those poisonous seeds of vice, which, by some strange law of our nature, germinate most surely where men do most congregate ; with hosts of foreigners crowding to our shores, and bringing with them the habits and associations of foreign lands ; with intemperance, that great mother of poverty, and vice, and crime, spreading out her lures on every side, Massachusetts could not be true to herself, to the spirit of the age, or the cause of humanity, if she longer withheld this as a means of counteracting these influences.

Whoever has been familiar with our criminal courts cannot have failed to mark the increase of crime of late, especially among the young. I doubt if a term of these courts passes, in our larger cities, in which children, and those, too, of a tender age, are not arraigned before them. Often and often is the heart pained at the spectacle of boys, with the open and ingenuous countenances that give so much of its charm to that age, and with all the interesting associations which cluster around childhood, standing up amidst old and hardened villains, and receiving, like them, the sentence of an ignominious punishment.

What number of children, under sixteen years of age, are thus condemned in a year, in this Commonwealth, I have not statistics to determine. We can, at best, only approximate their true number. It is stated, by Beaumont and De Tocqueville, in their report upon the penitentiary system of our country, that, of all the convicts in the United States, one in every ten is under

the age of twenty years. That proportion does not hold good if we confine our inquiry to our own State's prison, which was found to be about one in every sixteen of the two hundred and eighty-seven, which were confined there in 1846.

In a report made to the Legislature, preliminary to its action upon the subject of this Reform School, it is stated that, during the year 1845, there were ninety-seven children, under the age of sixteen years, convicted and sentenced to houses of correction in Massachusetts, exclusive of the counties of Suffolk, Norfolk, Hampshire, and Barnstable. In the county of Suffolk, as appears by a Report of the City Prisons of Boston, there were, during eight months of the year 1847, one hundred and one boys committed to the House of Reformation, and, during six and a half months of the same year, fifty-five, under the age of twenty years, were committed to the House of Correction in that city. If, therefore, we were to assume that at least three hundred boys are, every year, sentenced to prison for crime, in this Commonwealth, it would probably be found to fall below, rather than exceed, the actual number. It ought, moreover, to be borne in mind, that, as the law stood until the establishment of this school, there was no alternative, except in the city of Boston, by which a boy could be imprisoned save in the Jail or House of Correction. The choice was between idleness and profligacy in the one, and labor and hopeless corruption in the other.

I do not believe the judge exists, whose feelings as a man, would not shrink from pronouncing a sentence, fraught with such fearful consequences, upon a boy, though he stood before him a convicted felon. He could not fail to read, in nine cases out of ten, the future life of that boy. Shut up in the receptacle of the drunken and the dissolute,

of the petty thief and the low villain, human nature could not hope to surmount the fatal, the deadly contamination.

Every generous feeling revolts, when we read of the boy, of seven years of age, sentenced by an English court to seven dreadful years of punishment for a petty larceny, and yet too often it is more in the seeming than the fact, that such a sentence is more cruel in its effects than one for as many months. The boy steals a few shillings, he goes to the House of Correction for a few months, and comes out ready and fitted to enter a wider field of crime, and to merit a higher grade of punishment. And thus, before the expiration of the first protracted sentence of the one, the other is ripened for certain destruction. The first boy comes out into the world with all his old associations broken asunder, while the other has cultivated new associates with new arts to aid him on his way to ruin. It is not, however, to defend the propriety of a sentence, like that of the English court, that I have indulged in these remarks, but to show that there are terrors in any sentence of a mere boy to a House of Correction, almost as dreadful as the ruin of an immortal soul.

How few regard the fact as they ought, that the fate of a fellow-being for eternity may hang upon the question, whether and how the child shall be punished for a guilty act!

If the correction is paternal, if the rod that inflicts the blow be tempered by a father's love, there are few natures so obdurate that they will not yield—the child is saved, and society has gained a useful citizen. But let the forms of law be resorted to, let infamy and disgrace be burned into the soul with the mark which justice sets upon the offender, and rarely does that mark become obliterated. All that is

valuable in man perishes, and the records of another world, alone, may unfold the consequences of that sentence.

And yet, so long as there is crime, there must be punishments. So long as the young, in the precocity of guilt, will violate those laws, upon the maintenance of which the existence or happiness of society depends, so long must the young be made to feel that the way of the transgressor is hard. All that we can hope for, and, perhaps, all that we ought to desire, is, that punishment, in such cases, should be, as far as possible, parental in its character, and reformatory in its tendency. It should be, in short, what the discipline of this school is designed to be. Here the State stands forth, not with the rod of a tyrant, but with the subdued severity of a faithful parent. Justice and mercy will here meet together, and humanity will rejoice over these children, snatched, like brands from the burning, from the temptations that had led them astray from virtue.

If the purposes, for which they are brought hither, should be accomplished, may we not hope that they will be relieved from the legal infamy by which those, who have been convicted of certain crimes, are disqualified from testifying in courts of justice, that they may find an honest life a surer passport to public confidence than an executive pardon?

The auspices, under which this institution has gone into effect, furnish strong assurances of its eventual success. Its locality was selected with judgment, sagacity, and good taste. In the midst of a community, eminent for its morals, in a region unsurpassed for its elements of health—its salubrious air, and its pure water—upon an estate embracing and surrounded by objects of interest and beauty, and though sequestered from the confusion and excitements of a crowded thoroughfare, yet easily accessible to all portions of the State, few spots could surpass it in its

advantages for such an institution. Nor have the commissioners who selected it stopped here. The work which they undertook, they have carried on to all reasonable perfection. The edifice in which we are assembled, combining, as it does, indications of a generous taste in its exterior proportions, with fitness and adaptation in its interior arrangements, will stand a monument of the faithfulness and ability with which their trust has been executed.

The measures adopted by its trustees in, among other things, the selection of its Superintendent—so vital to its success—form an additional guaranty to the public, that, if the experiment fails, it must be from causes intrinsically incident to such a work, and not from any want of interest or capacity on the part of those to whom its concerns have been confided.

May the work go prosperously on! May the priceless, immortal souls that are to be subjected to human discipline through this institution, be purified from the stains by which they have been polluted, and set free from the bondage of vice in which they have been enslaved!

We commend this school, with its officers and inmates, to a generous and grateful public, with the trust that the future lives of the young who may be sent hither for correction and reform, may prove the crowning glory of an enterprise so auspiciously begun.

Let it not, however, be supposed that difficulties and disappointments are not to be anticipated in carrying out this enterprise. We have no right to expect that the laws of human character and conduct are to be suspended here. Experience has, too often, shown that motives which are adequate to control one mind are powerless in their action upon another; and that, with the paths of honor and success, and of disgrace and ruin both before them, men are

found choosing the latter, under impulses and influences often too subtle to be analyzed.

And such, doubtless, will be the history of those who will be congregated here. While, with their lessons of sad experience to warn them, some will persevere in the paths of danger and destruction, from which the law has sought to turn them, others will listen to the new lessons of kindness and wisdom, which will be taught them here, and take their stand, at last, among the honest and honored in the land.

But the solicitude with which both are cared for here, is in unison with the spirit of God's providence with the world at large. As the rain falls alike on the just and the unjust, so the law spreads its sheltering hand over the good man in his walks of usefulness, and the very felon in his cell, to shield them alike from outrage and oppression.

There is something in the very conception of an institution like this, which is calculated to impress upon the mind a sense of the dignity, the majesty, and the humanity of that great, unseen, impalpable agent, which we call the law. Though scarcely conscious of its presence till its power is resisted, we see it guiding and governing the affairs of a whole nation; and, at the same time, tenderly caring for the safety of the most friendless orphan amongst its children. It waits upon power in the halls of the great, and it enters and watches by the bed-side of the beggar in his hovel. It speaks in tones of stern rebuke to the guilty, but, at the same time, guards him as jealously from insult and abuse, as if he had never gone astray. And though it may shut him out from the light of heaven, for a season, it holds out, even there, the bow of hope to the vision of the prisoner.

It will be so here. That Law, uttering the will and in the name of a whole community, brings hither the young

and the wayward, for correction and restraint, while, like the mother who kisses while she chides, it holds out to them the encouragement of hope, and the assurance of favor, if they will but deserve it. It does more; it rears for them this refuge from temptation. It offers them this landscape, and spreads out before them these pleasant fields, and bids its own servants to watch over their temporal and eternal interests, to fit them to share the common heritage of a free and virtuous community.

For this, has the Commonwealth, through her Chief Magistrate and her honored civil officers, come hither, this day, in the spirit of that mission that suffers not that any of those whom God has given her should be lost.

In the name, then, of a wise humanity, we bid this institution God-speed! Let it be like Bethesda's pool, in which the lame and the diseased were washed and healed, because an angel had come down and moved its waters. Let it stand to other times, and to coming ages, a monument of the munificence of an unknown benefactor of his race, if he will, and of the faithfulness with which the noblest of all charities—a free government—has been hitherto administered by this, our beloved, our “model” Commonwealth.

PLAN OF SECOND STORY

Cellar

Stove Room 16 f. 6 in. x 11 f. 6 in.

Stove Room 12 f. 6 in. x 11 f. 6 in.

Wash Room

Kitchen

Stove Room 12 f. 6 in. x 11 f. 6 in.

Stove Room 16 f. 6 in. x 11 f. 6 in.

Passage

Escalier

Store Room 18 f. 6 in. x 9 f. 6 in.

Cellar

18 f. 14

Store Room

Corr.

Thaïs

Collins

Shore Jour

1871-1872

Stor. houn
L. p. 111.

Sturtevant's

Herschel

Friday

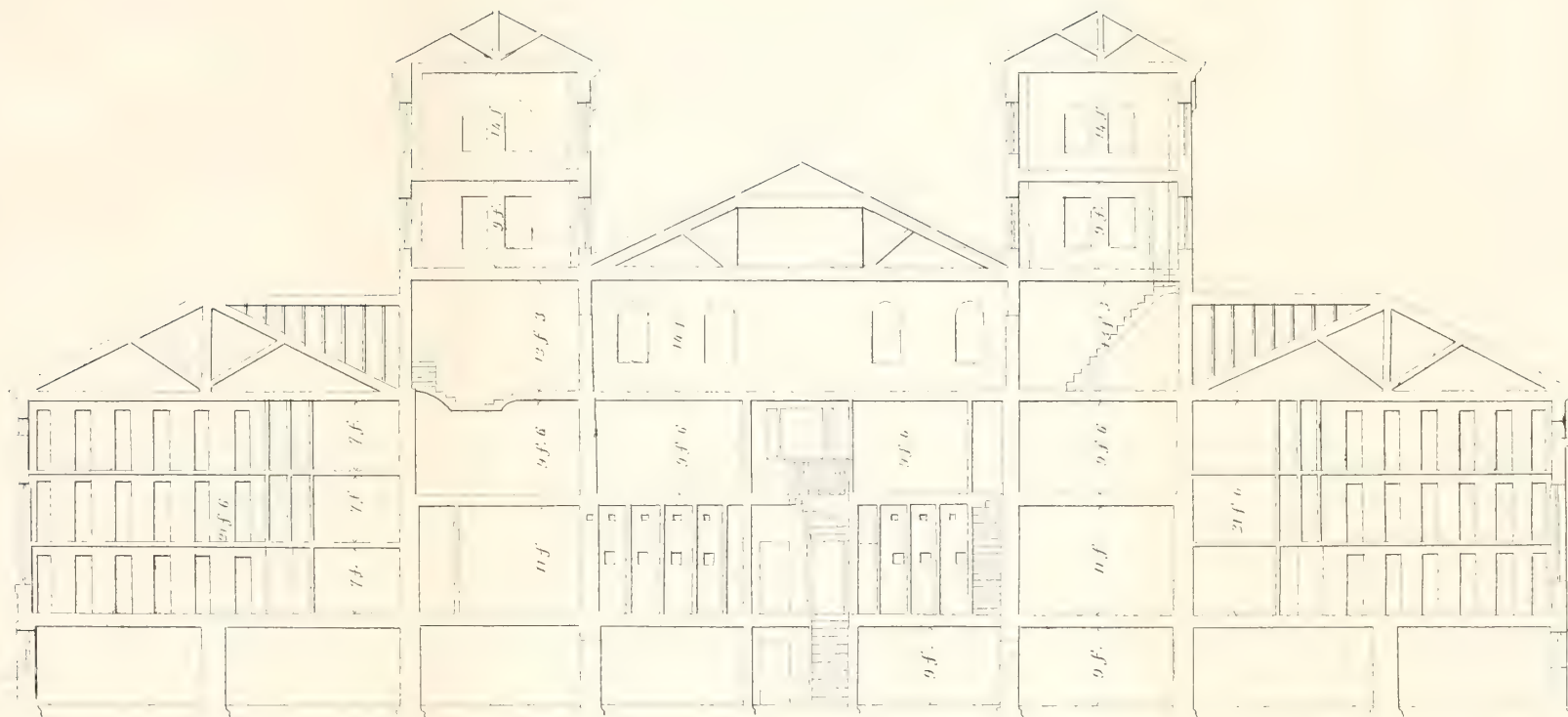
1771-1772

Stor. lium
Wif. h. x Wif. h.

1871-1872

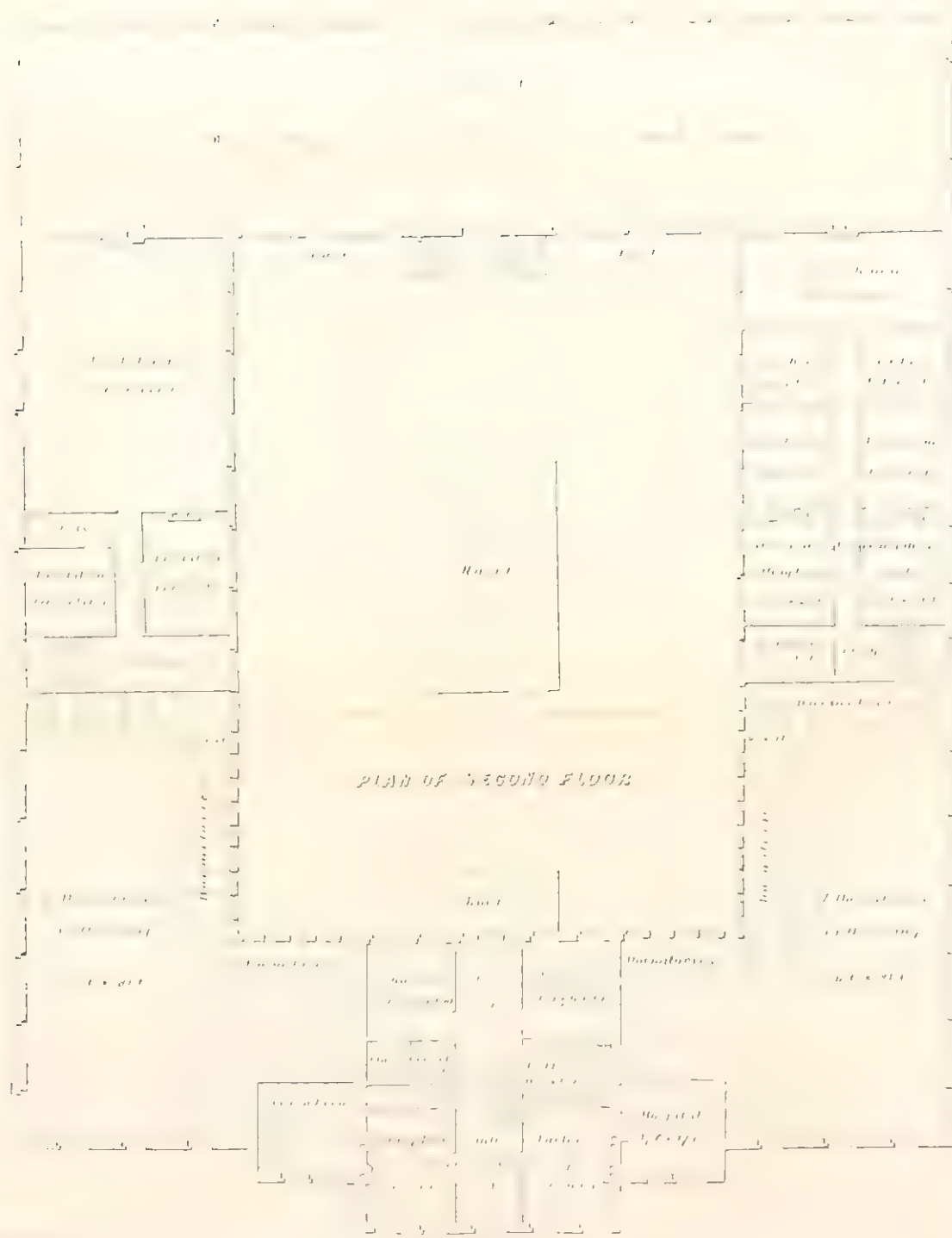
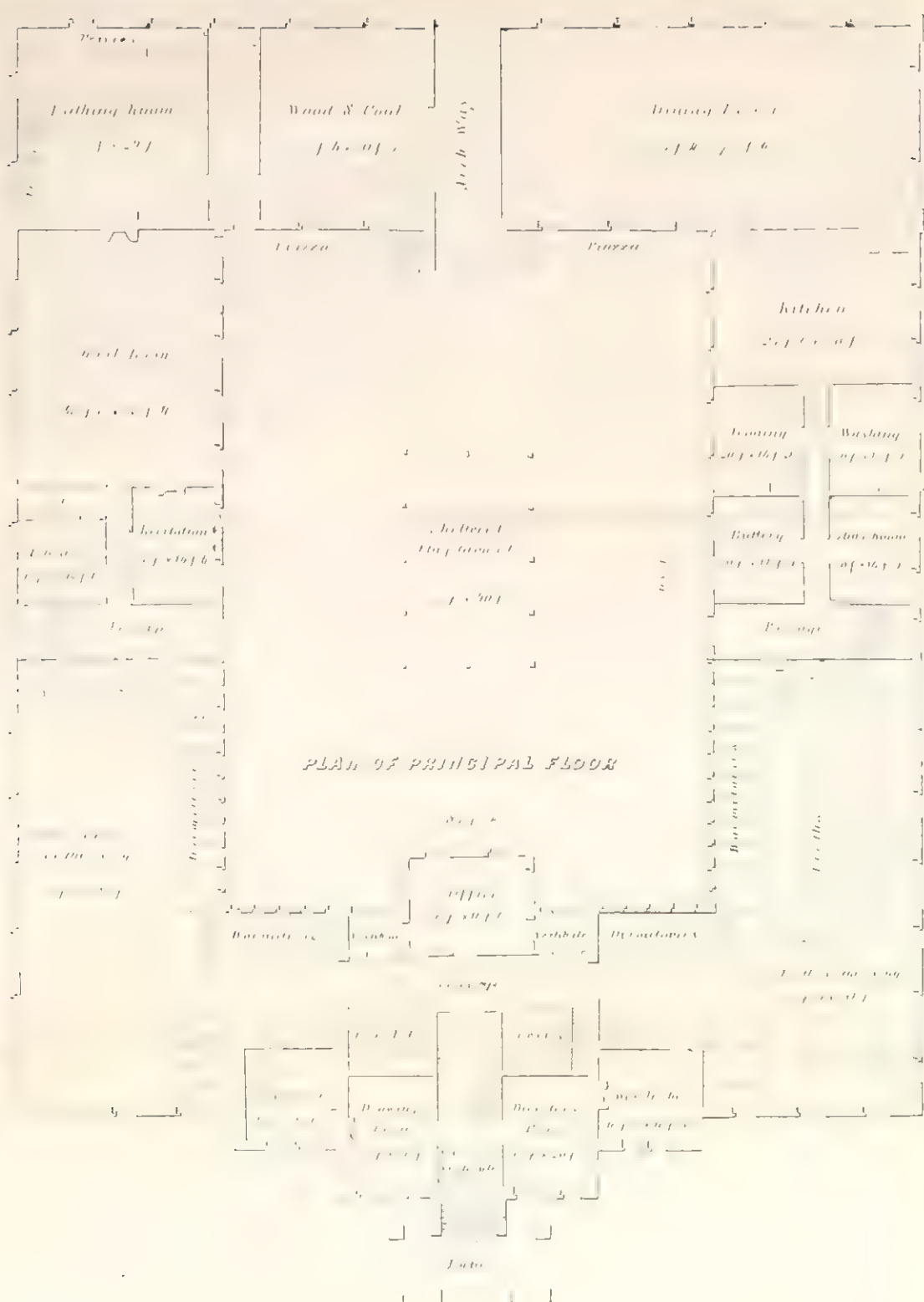
三

三



J. B. Estlin & Co. Boston

SECTION THROUGH A.B. ON GROUND PLAN



REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS

FOR

ERECTING THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.



To His Excellency GEORGE N. BRIGGS, *Governor, and the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :*

The Commissioners for erecting the State Reform School Buildings at Westborough make their second

REPORT :

In the discharge of their commission, they have caused to be erected buildings designed to be sufficient for three hundred boys, with a superintendent and steward, their families, and the other necessary attendants and teachers.

The buildings stand on an eminence, sloping southwardly, towards Chauncey Pond, about forty-eight rods from it, and seventy-eight feet above its level. They are all connected, and so constructed as to enclose an area, or court, for a playground, which is one hundred and eighteen feet long, and eighty-four feet four inches wide, in the centre of which is a shed for shelter to the boys in foul weather.

The external walls of the buildings are one hundred and sixty feet in front, and in the rear ; and two hundred feet on each side. The wings are two stories, the centre building three stories, and two towers five stories high.

In the centre building, are apartments for the superintendent and his family ; rooms for other persons employed ; the chapel ; and the office, which, being lighted from the court, gives opportunity for constant inspection of the boys while at play. Opposite the office, in the centre building, are seven solitary dormitories for discipline.

In the east wing, are apartments for the steward and his family, the kitchen, washing and ironing rooms, sewing rooms, store rooms, hospital, and dormitories for boys. In the west wing, are two large school rooms with contiguous recitation rooms and dormitories, as in the east wing.

In the rear, the second story is one large room designed for a workshop, with a movable partition, that no more room may be warmed than is occupied. It is reached by stairs from a corridor opening on the court. The first story is occupied by the refectory, which is connected by a door with the kitchen; by an arched passage-way ten feet wide, affording an entrance from without to the court, and closed by gates; by a room for coal and wood; a bathing-room, in which are facilities for cold and warm bathing, and for regular ablutions; and the water-closets, which all open into, or are connected with, a drain, that takes all the wash of the establishment to a reservoir for compost built at some rods distant.

The dormitories are for one bed each, and are four feet wide, eight feet long, and seven feet high; the doors all open upon the large hall appropriated to them, and the upper half of each door is composed of vertical iron rods, giving opportunity for oversight and ventilation; each dormitory has a ventilating flue, communicating with the attic, and so with the external air, through Emerson's ventilators. Those dormitories which are on the side next the court have sliding windows of 6×8 glass, with cast-iron guards corresponding to the sash of the window.

For those boys who do not occupy dormitories, bunks, standing in the hall, in front of the dormitories, will be used, an attendant occupying a bed in the same hall.

In each wing, two rooms, of the size of the dormitories, are appropriated to water-closets, fitted with apparatus to cleanse and carry off to the common drain all the deposits. These are designed for night use only.

The foundations of the buildings are of stone, the walls of brick, the roof slated; the work has been done, as was proposed, in a neat, plain, and substantial manner. Very little has been done for mere ornament, as may be seen on inspec-

tion, but nothing has been, designedly, omitted, which affects the practical value or the permanence of the buildings. It is not probable that they will be found incapable of improvement; for no foresight can provide for all contingencies, or anticipate all wants. The commissioners have already found one important defect, which no one of them thought of beforehand. The sash of the outside windows was made for glass of seven by nine inches, and the iron guards were made to correspond. Experiment proves that boys can escape through that space. It became necessary to provide a remedy, and arrangements are making to cover each window with a wrought-iron netting. This is an unexpected, an unwelcome, but a necessary addition to the expenses already incurred.

When the last report was made, it had not been entirely decided what course should be taken to furnish water. Since then, reservoirs have been built in the ground, sufficient to save all the water which falls upon the buildings; a pipe has been laid to the well at the farm-house, and arrangements so made as to use the water of the deep well at the building, for some purposes. These were the cheapest methods which could be devised, and may, it is hoped, answer the purpose. But it will not be surprising, if experience should prove them to be not entirely satisfactory. As a matter of economy, at least, it was thought best to try them.

The commissioners have furnished the buildings for the superintendent's and steward's families, and for one hundred and five boys. The school-room has been furnished with desks and chairs of an approved model, each pupil having a chair; each desk accommodating two pupils, and being made open at the ends, for books, and having on the top an inkstand permanently set. The room is warmed by Clark's ventilating stove. Few school-rooms can be found more inviting in appearance, or better fitted for use. In regard to all the other furniture, the intention has been to get that which is, at the same time, neat, comfortable, well made, and durable.

A few things only remain to be done before the duties required of this commission will have been fulfilled, and time will show how well, or how ill.

The commissioners regret that they must ask another appropriation; but, notwithstanding their great anxiety and endeavor to avoid it, they have not been able to do so without sacrificing the interests of the institution, which they would regret still more.

The amount appropriated by the resolve passed

April 16, 1846, was \$10,000 00

Of this, the commissioners for selecting a site and procuring plans expended, for their personal expenses, and in payment of Mr. Melvin, for plans,

483 32

Leaving a balance of 9,516 68

In addition to this sum, by the resolves passed April 9, 1847, another appropriation was made, of

35,000 00

By a resolve passed April 1, 1848, a further sum was appropriated, of

21,000 00

Making in all the sum of \$65,516 68

which was placed at the disposal of the commissioners for erecting the State Reform School Buildings, and which they have wholly expended, as follows, viz:—

By paying Mr. Daniel Davies the amount of his first contract, for erecting the buildings,

\$52,000 00

And additions thereto,

2,755 90

By paying Elias Carter and James S. Savage, in part of their expenditures, as superintendents, appointed by the commissioners, to superintend the erecting, finishing, and furnishing the buildings,

10,760 78

\$65,516 68

It thus appears, that, for the balance due for expenses already incurred, and those bargained for, no money remains at the disposal of the commission.

They have already incurred expenditures, or made contracts, to the amount of nearly \$5,000, without including any thing for their own personal expenditures or compensation. They believe that an additional appropriation of six thousand dollars will cover every thing which their commission requires them to cause to be done. They ask that that sum may be placed at their disposal, as other appropriations have been.

Respectfully submitted, by

A. D. FOSTER,

ROBERT RANTOUL,

Commissioners.

BOSTON, February 7, 1849.

SENATE.....

.....No. 12.

DOCUMENTS

RELATING TO

THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

—◆—

JANUARY, 1850.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN SENATE, January 21, 1850.

ORDERED, That one thousand extra copies of the Report of the officers of the State Reform School, be printed, and that five hundred copies thereof be reserved for the use of said officers.

CHAS. CALHOUN, CLERK.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Trustees of the State Reform School respectfully present to the Governor and Council, their Third Annual Report of the state and condition of that institution, for the year ending November 30th, 1849.

Since their last report, the following appointments have been made, viz.: On the 28th of December, last, James Leach was appointed Steward and Farmer of the establishment; February 6th, Rev. T. D. P. Stone was appointed Teacher and Chaplain; March 22nd, Orville K. Hutchinson was appointed Assistant Teacher. Three other persons, Messrs. Ayres, Allen, and Corbin, are also, employed in the double capacity of teachers and farmers, making five teachers who are constantly engaged in that service, while the schools are in operation. May 25th, George W. Lincoln was appointed Superintendent of the Shoe Department. August 3d, Miss C. H. Porter was appointed Matron, and Miss A. B. Porter, Superintendent of the Sewing Department. All these officers continue in the discharge of their several duties, at the date of this report. The compensation of the principal officers is established in the by-laws, which were printed in connection with our annual report last year.

The statistics of the institution are presented in detail, in the report of the Superintendent, which accompanies and forms a part of this report. By this it will appear, that the school already numbers three hundred and ten members; so that, in little more than a year from the date of its first opening, it has been filled to the maximum number which it was designed to accommodate. The Trustees found it necessary to give notice of this fact, by a circular letter, recently addressed to the sheriffs of the several counties, and to request, that no more boys should be committed to the Reform School, without a previous consultation with the Superintendent, to ascertain if they could be accommodated. It will also appear, from his report, that the

greatest number received in any one month, was in November, the last month of the year. This rapid filling up of the establishment, has far exceeded the expectations of some of its friends and promoters, and has probably somewhat exceeded the anticipations of the most sanguine. In view of it, it will be for the Legislature to decide, what further steps, if any, shall be taken, to provide for the many fit subjects for such an institution, which still abound in our midst, and most especially, in the purlieus of our cities and large manufacturing towns. Shall any thing further be now done, or shall we wait to give opportunity for a longer trial and fuller experience of the success of this enterprise? The Trustees do not hesitate to pronounce it as the result of their observation, that the experiment, so far as it has been tried, has proved a successful one. We can, already, in looking over our three hundred boys, select not a few, who are giving hopeful evidence, that they have been stayed in their career of vice and crime; that new thoughts and better feelings are fast finding place in their bosoms, and that they are forming resolutions, which, if strengthened by right example and timely encouragement, will make them a future blessing to the society, whose fundamental institutions their former training was rapidly preparing them to lay waste and to destroy.

By the tables it will further appear, that one hundred and ten boys, about one-third of the whole number committed, have been sent here on the charge of stubbornness. Now, while under this charge, which seems to be of very comprehensive application, are included some of the most appropriate subjects that are committed to this school, there is, also, a large class convicted of stubbornness, some of them very young, whose coming hither is of, at least, doubtful expediency; and the doubt in these cases will become much stronger, if our apartments continue to be crowded, as we may now reasonably expect them to be, with cases upon whom our reforming discipline may be made to operate with much fairer prospect of success. A large proportion of the commitments for this offence, are made by the justices of the peace in the several towns. Whether any further legislation can be usefully applied to remedy or to mitigate this evil, is respectfully submitted to the competent authorities, for their decision.

The inexpediency of sentences to this school for a short period—as for a single year, or for any period, in ordinary cases, less than during minority,—was noticed in our last year's report. As the reformatory purposes for which the school was established, are coming to be better understood, this difficulty is gradually finding its remedy, and the sentences of this class are diminishing in the proportion which they bear to the whole number. There are, however, cases still recurring, in which the proper discipline of the school, and the best hope for the reformation of the offender are greatly embarrassed, by what appear to us, very injudicious sentences of this kind. It is proper, therefore, that we should again invite the attention of the Legislature, and especially of the committing magistrates, to this subject, reminding them that, in addition to every other motive which should prevent the Trustees from detaining a boy at the school, a moment longer than his own best interests and the safety of the public require him to remain here, the crowded state of our apartments affords a new guarantee that none will be detained who can with propriety be discharged; and that, unless we have power to retain those who cannot be so discharged, it were better for them, and for us, that they had never been sent here.

The unknown benefactor to this institution, whose liberal donations have been a theme of our former reports, is no longer unknown. The Hon. Theodore Lyman, died at his residence in Brookline, in the month of July last, honored and lamented by all who knew him. By his will, he left the sum of fifty thousand dollars, in addition to his former donations, as a legacy to this institution. When this shall have been received, the citizens of this Commonwealth will be indebted to his liberality, for the ample sum of seventy-two thousand five hundred dollars, contributed in aid of the purposes of the Reform School. Twelve thousand five hundred dollars of this amount were employed in purchasing the two farms on which our establishments are located; and the remaining sum of sixty thousand dollars, which includes the ten thousand dollars already received and invested, will, in accordance with the directions of the testator, be invested as a permanent fund, the income of which is to be used, at the discretion of the Trustees, in such way as they shall deem most promotive of the prosperity of the institution,

and most in accordance with the intentions of the donor. It appears by the codicils to the will, a copy of which has been furnished by the Hon. Samuel A. Eliot, one of the executors, and is hereunto annexed, that this bequest was at first limited to thirty thousand dollars, but that just before the testator departed from his home on a visit to Europe, in the summer of 1848, having visited the premises at Westborough, and examined the site and progress of the buildings, he was induced to add, by a second codicil, the sum of twenty thousand dollars to his previous bequest.

In commemoration of this munificent deed of Christian charity, the Trustees have voted, that this fund of seventy thousand dollars, including as it does, the ten thousand dollars appropriated by the Legislature, and paid over to them for the same purpose, shall be henceforth known and designated as the "Lyman Fund." They have also, taken measures to procure a marble bust of our noble benefactor, from the chisel of a native artist, Mr. Henry Dexter, which, it is intended, shall occupy an appropriate position within the walls of the edifice, for which we are so largely indebted to him.

By the Treasurer's report, it will be seen that the whole amount expended during the past year, including the balance of \$1,721 17 due him November 30th, 1848, has been \$29,991-91, leaving a balance now due the Treasurer on general account, of \$2,558 83; and that there is a balance in favor of the Lyman Fund, of \$622 51, the greater part of which will be absorbed, on the payment for the bust before mentioned. The increased number of boys, requiring an increase of teachers and other officers over the estimate of last year, which was predicated on an average of one hundred only, will account for the excess of the expenditure over the appropriation, and the increased balance due the Treasurer in consequence thereof. In their estimates of the wants of the institution for the past year, the Trustees were without sufficient data for their guide. It now appears, that the expense for the ordinary support of each boy, excluding salaries of officers, has been about \$34 per annum, while, as we learn from the last annual report of the Prison Discipline Society, the average cost of the inmates of eleven different state prisons, has been \$67 per annum.

The productive industry of the boys for the past year, though

small in amount, appears to us to be more than, under all the circumstances, could have been expected. The continual, almost daily accession of new subjects, the amount of work necessary to be done in fitting for their accommodation, in preparing clothing, bedding, &c., and the commencing of a new enterprise with inexperienced officers, have prevented that regularity in the labor that is required to make it most productive. Perhaps it may not be too hazardous to venture the opinion, that when the institution shall be fairly in operation, and the farm properly cultivated, the amount required from the treasury of the State to sustain it, will be a much smaller sum than would be required to be expended from the public coffers, if the institution did not exist, on the same persons who are now committed to this school; and that the establishment will thus prove to be really a saving of the public money, without regarding the greater good which it is its chief purpose to accomplish.

Taking the estimate of \$34, for the ordinary annual expense of each boy, there will be required, for three hundred boys, the sum of ten thousand two hundred dollars:				-	\$10,200 00
For salaries, wages and support of officers,				-	7,250 00
“ fuel, lights and all other current expenses,				-	3,200 00
For expenses of conveying water and finishing					
farm-house, now contracted for,				-	2,500 00
Balance now due the treasurer,				-	2,558 00
					<hr/>
					\$25,708 00

Deduct the probable amount of earnings from					
the labor of the boys during the year,				-	3,108 00
					<hr/>

And it will leave, - - - - \$22,600 00
 which, we think, will be required for the support of the institution, for the ensuing year.

Before concluding this report, the Trustees are desirous of expressing their obligations to the Superintendent, for the zeal, assiduity and faithfulness with which he has discharged the laborious and responsible duties of his appointment during the past year. These duties have been doubly arduous, in the commencement of an enterprise so new and untried, and of

such magnitude and importance as this; and they have been performed in such a manner as to command and receive our approbation and entire concurrence. To the other officers generally, we would also express our grateful acknowledgment, for the faithfulness with which their several duties have been discharged, and by which they have contributed, each in his appropriate sphere of action, to the success, which, under Providence, has thus far attended our efforts.

SAMUEL WILLISTON,
THOMAS A. GREENE,
OTIS ADAMS,
GEORGE DENNY,
WILLIAM T. ANDREWS,
WILLIAM LIVINGSTON,
RUSSELL A. GIBBS.

WESTBOROUGH, *December 6th*, 1849.

Extracts from two codicils to the will of THEODORE LYMAN. The first codicil is dated the 5th day of January, 1848, the second, the 10th day of July, 1848.

After making provision in the first codicil for the payment of ten thousand dollars to the Reform School, unless he should give that sum during his life, he goes on to say :—

“I give to the Reform School, established by the State, at Westborough, in this Commonwealth, being the same school to which I have already made a donation, the sum of thirty thousand dollars. And it is my will, that the aforesaid sum of thirty thousand dollars shall be appropriated by the Trustees, or other persons duly appointed and authorized to manage and conduct the concerns of the same school, in such way and manner, as to them shall appear most likely to promote the objects of the institution under their care and charge.”

In the second codicil, after revoking the donation of ten thousand dollars to the Reform School, because he had given that sum to its Treasurer, through the hands of William T. Andrews, on the first day of July, 1848, he adds :—

“Second. In addition to the sum of thirty thousand dollars, given in the preceding codicil, to the Reform School, established by the State, at Westborough, in this Commonwealth, I now give the further sum of twenty thousand dollars, and I declare it to be my will, that the whole and the sole object of these two donations, of thirty thousand dollars and of twenty thousand dollars, respectively, made to my native State, in the two codicils attached to my last testament, is to aid in enabling the Legislature of the same, to establish in the town of Westborough, an institution or institutions, on the most approved plan, for the proper discipline, instruction, employment, and reformation of juvenile offenders, whether male or female, or both.”

To His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents his Third Annual Report.

The Treasurer charges himself from Dec. 1, 1848, to Nov. 30, 1849, inclusive, as follows :

For amounts received from the State

Treasury	\$25,000 00
--------------------	-------------

For amounts received from the Super-

intendent,	1,598 58
----------------------	----------

Balance carried to new account,	2,558 83
---------------------------------	----------

	\$29,157 41
--	-------------

He credits himself with balance due

Nov. 30, 1848,	\$1,721 17
--------------------------	------------

And for the following payments :

Medical attendance and medicine,	71 86
--------------------------------------------	-------

Tools, leather, and materials for shoe

shop,	2,183 07
-----------------	----------

Buildings, improvements, and repairs,	8,017 88
-------------------------------------------------	----------

Salaries, wages and labor,	5,292 93
--------------------------------------	----------

Farming tools, stock and improvements

on farm,	1,656 32
--------------------	----------

Fuel and lights,	1,486 89
----------------------------	----------

Provisions and groceries,	4,001 05
-------------------------------------	----------

Books, stationery and printing,	564 56
-------------------------------------------	--------

Furniture and bedding,	1,792 01
----------------------------------	----------

Clothing, &c.,	1,614 11
--------------------------	----------

Trustees' expenses,	266 87
-------------------------------	--------

Transportation and railroad freight,	338 40
------------------------------------------------	--------

Postage,	17 70
--------------------	-------

Miscellaneous,	132 59
--------------------------	--------

	\$29,157 41
--	-------------

TOOLS, LEATHER AND MATERIALS FOR SHOE

SHOP, INCLUDE

Leather, 7303 $\frac{3}{4}$ ft.,	\$ 664 87
--------------------------------------------	-----------

“ 6527 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.,	849 95
--------------------------------------	--------

Binding 55 doz.,	55 58
Tools,	496 74
Thread, 123 lbs.,	58 74
Boxes, 45,	17 40
Pegs, tacks, blacking, wax, &c.,	17 92
Assistance in shoe shop, and commis-	
sions on shoes sold,	21 87

\$2,183 07

BUILDINGS, IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS, INCLUDE

Labor and materials for finishing barn,	\$1,915 79
Labor and materials for building, mov-	
ing, and repairing stable for Institu-	
tion, piggery, blacksmith, and car-	
penter shop, and repairs within the	
Institution, &c.,	1,891 50
Amount paid in part for farm house,	784 46
School desks, 100,	362 50
Stools and chairs, 400,	415 63
Tables, 348½ feet,	158 00
Sleeping racks, 16,	208 00
Drawers, 188 ; hat pins, 504,	85 08
Iron work and lightning rods,	132 86
Carpenter and blacksmith tools,	52 48
Room paper,	14 91
Powder, for blasting rocks,	2 67
Locks, keys, door handles, &c.,	40 28
Steam boilers, pipes, laundry, &c.,	1,953 72

\$8,017 88

BOOKS, STATIONERY AND PRINTING, INCLUDE

The printing of applications, 3000 ; in-	
dentures bound, 2000 ; letters to mas-	
ters, 1000 ; to boys, 1000 ; permits,	
notices to sheriffs, &c.,	60 25
School books, 1405,	297 82
1 set blank books, for institution,	102 18
Hymn books, 300,	54 00
Bibles, 52,	15 70
Slates, 246,	22 19
Writing paper, pens, pencils, &c.,	12 42

\$564 56

FURNITURE AND BEDDING, INCLUDE

Ticking, 1803 yards,	. . .	189 28
Sheeting, 385 yards,	. . .	35 09
Diaper, table linen and crash, 1899 yds,		123 08
Comforters, 132,	. . .	85 60
Ironing cloth, 26½ yards,	. . .	17 23
Blankets, 312,	. . .	304 94
Chairs, 169,	. . .	66 10
Curled hair, 264½ lbs,	. . .	74 06
Settees, 210 feet,	. . .	86 00
Iron bedsteads, 80,	. . .	363 80
Tape, needles and pins,	. . .	4 38
Bedsteads, bureaus, chairs and mattresses,		
for officers,	. . .	78 33
Baskets, 6,	. . .	3 00
Pails, 25,	. . .	5 13
Spoons, 288,	. . .	9 00
Knives and forks, 252 each,	. . .	33 90
Bells,	. . .	1 96
Crockery ware,	. . .	121 28
Clothes lines and pins,	. . .	4 60
Tin, and sheet iron ware,	. . .	28 70
Thread, 80 lbs,	. . .	62 72
Brooms and brushes, 151,	. . .	23 99
Lanterns and lamps, 96,	. . .	30 55
Straw carpet,	. . .	16 00
Miscellaneous,	. . .	23 29

\$1,792 01

CLOTHING INCLUDES

Satinets, 805½ yards,	. . .	423 95
Denims, 2,397, “	. . .	255 24
Sheeting, 5,373 “	. . .	400 01
Making 131 suits clothes,	. . .	57 17
Caps, 462,	. . .	121 50
Palm leaf hats, and binding, 550,	. . .	52 75
Thread, 75 lbs,	. . .	52 95
Scissors, 25 prs,	. . .	4 48
Needles and pins,	. . .	15 23
Thimbles,	. . .	6 60

Buttons, 67 gro.,	.	.	.	51 22
Yarn, 75 lbs,	.	.	.	50 51
Socks, 456 prs,	.	.	.	81 50
Shoes, 35 prs.,	.	.	.	23 75
Combs, 576,	.	.	.	6 68
Handkerchiefs,	.	.	.	7 50
Wax and braids,	.	.	.	3 07
				<hr/>
				\$1,614 11
				<hr/> <hr/>

MISCELLANEOUS INCLUDES

Expenses of pursuing and returning				
elopers,	.	.	.	33 40
Travelling expenses on business for				
Institution,	.	.	.	28 92
Boat, oars, &c.,	.	.	.	26 44
Advertising for help,	.	.	.	3 00
Sleigh, and Buffalo robes, &c.,	.	.	.	40 83
				<hr/>
				\$132 59
				<hr/> <hr/>

PROVISIONS AND GROCERIES, INCLUDE

Flour, 329 bbls,	.	.	.	1,807 69
Rye meal, 60 bush.,	.	.	.	60 00
Indian meal, 282 bush.,	.	.	.	211 50
Beef, 8,509 lbs,	.	.	.	442 87
Pork, 1,821 lbs,	.	.	.	130 91
Mutton, 84½ lbs,	.	.	.	5 07
Veal, 735 lbs,	.	.	.	48 20
Sausages, 38 lbs,	.	.	.	3 15
Ham, 183 lbs,	.	.	.	17 86
Tongue, 58 lbs,	.	.	.	5 80
Poultry, 178 lbs,	.	.	.	21 13
Fish, 2,399 lbs,	.	.	.	61 71
Mackerel,	.	.	.	9 04
Salt, 30 bush.,	.	.	.	15 46
Potatoes, 144 bush.,	.	.	.	106 92
Beans, 26 bush.,	.	.	.	39 86
Rice, 3,332 lbs,	.	.	.	138 08
Sugar, white, 166 lbs,	.	.	.	14 51
Coffee, 192 lbs,	.	.	.	18 64
Tea, 85 lbs,	.	.	.	31 32
Chocolate, 250 lbs,	.	.	.	34 00

Cocoa and shells, 75 lbs,	.	.	8 25
Molasses, 1,439 galls,	.	.	320 39
Butter, 754 lbs,	.	.	113 69
Lard, 404 lbs,	.	.	33 46
Soap, 1,425 lbs,	.	.	76 75
Potash, 560 lbs,	.	.	41 76
Starch, 37 lbs,	.	.	3 33
Tapioca, 67 lbs,	.	.	6 76
Crackers,	.	.	9 15
Eggs, 58 doz.,	.	.	10 33
Fruit, &c.,	.	.	24 61
Saleratus, 337 lbs,	.	.	24 06
Ginger, pepper, and other small spices,			17 26
Vinegar, 110½ galls,	.	.	11 05
Barrels 6,	.	.	2 91
Brown sugar, 1,073 lbs,	.	.	60 31
Miscellaneous,	.	.	13 26

\$4,001 05

FARMING TOOLS, STOCK AND IMPROVEMENTS

ON THE FARM, INCLUDE

Wagons, 2; cart, 1; pung, 1,	.	178 62
Seed sower, 1; hay cutter, 1; wheel-		
barrows, 4; ploughs, 3; harrow, 1;		
scythes and snaths, 12 each; shov-		
els, 50; hoes, 30; manure forks, 12;		
yokes, chains, axes, rakes, &c.,	.	240 02
1 horse, 1 cow, and 2 swine,	.	156 00
Trees, 1,322,	.	209 92
Grain, 387 bush.,	.	234 69
Potatoes, 92 bush.,	.	68 75
Labor, laying walls, blasting rocks,		
&c.,	.	170 08
Blacksmith work,	.	67 58
Salt, 20 bush.,	.	7 00
Harnesses, 7 sets,	.	107 12
Pails, pans, &c.,	.	8 47
Pasturing young cattle,	.	29 46
Plaster, 4 tons,	.	27 97
Grass and garden seeds,	.	47 54
Chestnut posts for fence, 100,	.	12 50

Lime, 13 casks,	.	.	.	14	04	
Guano, 927 lbs,	.	.	.	28	41	
Hay and straw,	.	.	.	36	00	
Hot bed frame, glass, &c.,	.	.	.	12	15	
						<u>\$1,656 32</u>

FUEL AND LIGHTS INCLUDE

Coal, 215 tons,	.	.	.	1,213	25	
Oil, 214½ galls,	.	.	.	238	55	
Wood, 3⅞ cords,	.	.	.	13	37	
Charcoal, 112 bush.,	.	.	.	17	92	
Wicks,	.	.	.	3	80	
						<u>\$1,486 89</u>

LYMAN FUND,	.	.	.	20,000	00	
Am't rec'd for dividends and interest,				1,457	01	
						<u>\$21,457 01</u>

The fund is credited with interest, for						
money borrowed for general account,				131	49	
Insurance,	.	.	.	69	50	
In part for purchase of Warren Farm				25	87	
Printing Mr. Washburn's Address,						
and Views of Building, &c.,	.	.	.	80	64	
Fire engine, and hose,	.	.	.	527	00	834 50
						<u>\$20,622 51</u>
Balance,	.	.	.			

GEO. DENNY.

Westborough, November 30, 1849.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School, the Superintendent respectfully presents his Annual Report :

GENTLEMEN,—Thirteen months have now elapsed since this institution was opened for the reception of boys. Many then expressed the opinion that a series of years would elapse before the whole number which the buildings were designed to accommodate, would be received. But we now find, that the institution is already in a crowded state, having a larger number than was ever intended to be placed in it at one time. The greatest number received in any one month, was during the month ending with the 30th inst.

The following tables are prepared, to give you, in a condensed and convenient form, facts, in regard to the institution and its inmates, during the past year ;—as well as to form data, from which in future years, information will be at hand, showing the earlier progress of the institution.

TABLE 1.

Showing the number of admissions, and general state of the institution, from Dec. 1st, 1848, to Nov. 30th, 1849 :—

Boys in the house, at commencement of year, Dec. 1,									
1848,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Received since	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	311
Number in the house during the year	-	-	-						334
Discharged	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Remaining, Nov. 30, 1849	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	310

Three hundred and eleven boys have been committed during the year, which is about one for every week day.

Of those discharged, seven were apprenticed to various trades and employments. Two were discharged by the Board ; one of these, a French boy, unable to speak the English language, being desirous to return to his parents in Bordeaux, it was deemed best to discharge him. The other was permitted to accompany his parents who were leaving the State.

Nine were remanded or rejected, as improper subjects; two of which were idiotic, and most of the others over sixteen years of age. Two were delivered to Boston Municipal Court, by authority of habeas corpus, to receive a change of sentence. Two were discharged on expiration of sentence.

TABLE 2.

Admissions from each County, the past and previous year.

	1849.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable,	-	-	-
Bristol,	31	-	31
Berkshire,	6	-	6
Dukes,	-	-	-
Essex,	63	3	66
Franklin,	1	-	1
Hampden,	2	-	2
Hampshire,	3	-	3
Middlesex,	59	9	68
Nantucket,	-	-	-
Norfolk,	19	-	19
Plymouth,	2	-	2
Suffolk,	101	11	112
Worcester,	24	-	24
	311	23	334

Greatest number from Suffolk County,—Middlesex and Essex rank next. Only thirty-six received from the five western counties. The above table shows that the greater proportion of commitments are from the manufacturing portion of the State, and from that section containing the large towns and cities; and but few from the agricultural part of our community.

TABLE 3.

Showing the Admission, Discharges, and the Average Number of Boys, each month in the year.

	Average.	Admitted.	Discharged.
December, 1848,	-	19	1
January, 1849,	-	18	1
February, "	-	26	1
March, "	-	16	1
April, "	-	28	-
May, "	-	22	-
June, "	-	27	1
July, "	-	36	1
August, "	-	31	3
September, "	-	23	2
October, "	-	24	5
November, "	-	41	8
Yearly Average,		311	24

TABLE 4.

Showing the disposal of those discharged, from Dec. 1, 1848, to Nov. 30, 1849.

Discharged on expiration of sentence	-	-	-	2
“ by Board of Trustees	-	-	-	2
“ remanded as improper subjects	-	-	-	9
By indenture, as follows, viz.,—				
To a Boot Maker	-	-	-	1
“ Ship Carpenter	-	-	-	1
“ Silver Plater	-	-	-	1
“ Carpenter	-	-	-	1
“ attend school	-	-	-	2
“ Farmer	-	-	-	1
Delivered to Boston Municipal Court	-	-	-	2
Escaped	-	-	-	2
Total	-	-	-	24

The above table shows that nine have been remanded as improper subjects. The provision in the Statute giving this pow-

er to the trustees, was designed, doubtless, to enable them to remove such boys as would, by their connection with the school, be likely to corrupt the less depraved, if allowed to associate with them. It was also designed to be an admonition to the boys, that though they may now be allowed to enjoy the benefits of such an institution, *hoping for reform*, yet, if their conduct shall indicate, that by remaining, no hope is afforded of reformation, then the penalty of the broken law remains to be fulfilled in their alternative sentence.

Many difficulties often present themselves in the management of the pupils while in the institution; but when we consider the importance of obtaining for them proper guardians, who will labor to carry out the reform which we hope may have commenced here, *we* feel that a very important part is yet to be done.

The disposal of boys, by apprenticeship, is of high importance and responsibility; involving, to a great extent, their future prospects for respectability and usefulness. Much depends upon the character and parental faithfulness of the individual to whom they may be indented, as well as upon surrounding influences. For should they be again located so as to be subjected to the same bad influences as before admission, they will be very likely to fall into their former vicious habits.

An embarrassment frequently arises from the change in public sentiment and practice, in regard to apprentices. Formerly, mechanics' apprentices served a full term of from five to seven years, residing in the family of their master, receiving moral and religious training, as well as mechanical instruction. More recently, mechanics employ boys and young men, at particular branches of trade, for limited periods, allowing them to board where they may, and conduct themselves, when not employed, as they choose. This course is injurious to the young, especially the naturally vicious and misguided youth, who need constant, steady, parental control and instruction.

Owing to the short time since the school was opened, but little has been done in binding out boys, seven only having been apprenticed; most of them under favorable circumstances, who are doing well, as far as heard from. All the letters received in relation to, or from them, may be found in the appendix attached to this report.

We now have many promising boys, who are, or will soon be, ready for apprenticeship; and it is to be hoped that the philanthropic in retired agricultural portions of the State, will make an effort to procure good men to whom these unfortunate, though we may hope not ruined youth, may be indented, under such circumstances as will secure the great end of the establishment,—which is *their reformation*.

The executive committee are authorized to indent boys to persons of good character, one month after application in writing shall have been made to the Superintendent. Many boys should be apprenticed during the coming winter and spring, to enable us to make room for further admissions.

TABLE 5.

Showing by what authority committed.

	1849.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas, . .	33	2	35
" Boston Municipal Court, . .	34	5	39
" Boston Police Court, . .	67	6	73
" Lawrence " " . .	8	2	10
" Lynn, by Justices and Police Court, .	8	1	9
" Lowell Police Court, . .	20	7	27
" Newburyport Police Court, . .	16	-	16
" New Bedford " " . .	18	-	18
" Salem " " . .	26	-	26
" Worcester " " . .	6	-	6
" Justices of the Peace in various towns,	75	-	75
Totals,	311	23	334

TABLE 6.

*Offences of all committed during the year ending Nov. 30, 1849,
and previously.*

	1849.	Previously.	Total.
For Larceny,	109	10	119
" Stubbornness,	106	4	110
" Idle and Disorderly,	17	3	20
" Vagrancy,	23	-	23
" Shopbreaking and Stealing,	17	-	17
" Housebreaking and Stealing,	2	2	4
" Burglary,	1	-	1
" Shopbreaking, with Intent to Steal,	3	2	5
" Pilfering,	7	-	7
" Having obscene Books and Prints, for Circulation,	1	1	2
" Common Drunkards,	2	-	2
" Malicious Mischief,	13	-	13
" Assault,	1	1	2
" Trespass,	4	-	4
" Arson,	2	-	2
" Runaways,	3	-	3
	311	23	334

The above table shows that larceny and stubbornness, in about equal proportion, are the causes of the greatest number of commitments. It should be remarked that the charge of stubbornness often covers many other crimes. Generally, there is more hope of reform in a lad guilty of some petty larceny, or even of a higher offence, than of the really stubborn child, made so by injudicious parental training.

Many lads have been led into theft under strong temptations, frequently owing to parental neglect, who readily yield to wholesome discipline and instruction, and to the parental care exercised over them in the institution.

One great cause of crime among youth, especially in our large towns and cities, is *truancy*. The incorrigible truant, who has become familiar with *horse racing*, the *bowling saloon*, the theatrical exhibitions, and other similar places of amusement, debauchery and crime, (where too many of our youth are daily to be found,) is a most unfavorable subject for *reform*.

Much more crime is committed by boys of an age so young that they seem hardly to be suspected, than many are aware of, or are willing to admit. The cause of this increase of juvenile offenders, should be sought out, and if possible, corrected. A want of *early* parental *discipline* and training, has doubtless much to do with it. Intemperance in parents is another evil of the same tendency. The influence of the bowling saloon, and other places of improper amusement for youth, is also very pernicious.

The boy, full of activity, thirsting for amusement, seeks these haunts of vice, and not having the means to gratify his desires, is strongly tempted to obtain them dishonestly. In the low bowling saloons, where, perhaps, he becomes initiated by being employed in setting pins, he soon has a desire to act the man, and not having moral principle sufficient to restrain him, he becomes a juvenile gambler. Profanity, drunkenness, and licentiousness, soon follow, hurrying him forward in the path of crime and ruin. When a lad reaches this dreadful vortex, it is with much difficulty he can be restored, if ever, to virtue and honesty. Selling newspapers, matches, &c., about the streets, has a pernicious influence.

Much may doubtless be done by the philanthropist, in endeavoring to rescue the youth from their haunts of vice, and procuring for them situations of more quiet, and less temptation. Probably there are hundreds of this character who will never be brought under the influence of such an institution as this, who might be saved by a little effort, if those who have the power could be induced to make the attempt.

TABLE 7.

Showing the length of the time of sentences, the past and previous year.

	1849.	Previously.	Total.
During their minority,	238	9	247
Until twenty years old,	5	-	5
“ fourteen “ “	1	-	1
For one year,	16	2	18
“ one year, six months,	3	-	3
“ two “	15	4	19
“ three “	18	4	22
“ four “	3	-	3
“ five “	4	4	8
“ six “	5	-	5
“ eight “	2	-	2
“ ten “	1	-	1
	311	23	334

During the first part of the year, many were sent for short periods; but, as the public have become more enlightened, as to the character and true objects of the institution, this evil has, to some extent, been corrected; though we still have boys sent in for short terms.

From the experience of the past year, we are confident in making the assertion, that short terms of sentence have an injurious effect upon the inmates; as, in consequence, they often return to their vicious parents, or associates, at a time when they are receiving the most benefit from the discipline of the School. They are again thrown into the very scenes of vice and crime, from which they were taken. Under such circumstances, who can hope for long continuance of rectitude, whatever may be the state of the youth on leaving the School.

The above may be illustrated by the following fact. Recently, a lad, who had been committed for one year, when discharged, at the expiration of his sentence, with tears desired that he might be permitted to remain, until a suitable place could be found for him. His request was granted; a good

situation procured in an excellent family, where he was happy, and gave good satisfaction. Soon after, his father, ascertaining where he was placed, sought him out, and removed him to the scenes of his crimes and vicious associates, notwithstanding the lad's remonstrance; where it is greatly to be feared, he may fall again, under the bad influences now surrounding him, notwithstanding his present correct deportment. He has since visited us, and expressed much solicitude in regard to his future prospects,—regretting he had not been committed during his minority, that he might have been under the guardianship of the managers of the institution, until manhood.

TABLE 8.

Showing the duration of alternative sentence, for the past and previous year.

	1849.	Previously.	Total.
For four years,	2	-	2
" three "	2	-	2
" two "	24	-	24
" one " six months,	5	1	6
" one "	26	4	30
" nine months,	1	-	1
" eight "	2	-	2
" six "	70	5	75
" five "	1	-	1
" four, "	11	-	11
" three "	39	7	46
" two "	86	1	87
" one "	10	4	14
" sixty days,	10	1	11
" thirty "	8	-	8
" one "	6	-	6
" one month to Workhouse,	2	-	2
" thirty days to Common Jail,	6	-	6
	311	23	334

TABLE 9.

Showing the nativity of all committed in the past year, and previously.

	1849.	Previously	Total.	
Born in Ireland,	33	9	42	
“ France,	1	-	1	
“ England,	2	1	3	
“ Scotland,	3	-	3	
“ Canada,	3	2	5	
“ Nova Scotia,	2	1	3	
“ New Brunswick,	9	-	9	
Foreigners,				66
“ Massachusetts,	212	8	220	
“ New Hampshire,	8	1	9	
“ Vermont,	8	-	8	
“ Maine,	12	-	12	
“ Connecticut,	3	-	3	
“ Rhode Island,	6	-	6	
“ Pennsylvania,	2	1	3	
“ New York,	7	-	7	
Born in United States,				268
				334

Of the two hundred and sixty-eight born in the United States, ninety-six were of Irish parentage, three of English, and one of German. The remaining one hundred and sixty-eight comprises one more than half the whole number committed.

TABLE 10.

Ages of Boys when committed.

	1849.	Previously.	Total.
7 years of age,	3	-	3
8 " "	10	-	10
9 " "	17	-	17
10 " "	27	-	27
11 " "	36	1	37
12 " "	46	3	49
13 " "	33	4	37
14 " "	59	9	68
15 " "	69	3	72
16 " "	3	1	4
17 " "	3	-	3
18 " "	-	1	1
19 " "	2	-	2
Unknown,	3	1	4
Average age, about 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ years.	311	23	334

The design of the institution is sufficiently indicated by its name. One strong inducement for its establishment, was the hope of saving young delinquents from the corrupting influence of older criminals, by contact, in prison.

Though most of the boys are committed during their minority, it is not expected they will remain in the School, for any longer period than is needful to prepare them to make good farmers and mechanics, by apprenticeship. Neither is it our design to instruct them, while here, in the business they are to follow in after life. This would require much outlay of capital, and would be nearly impracticable; for the younger boys would have to remain in the School a very long time, and this would tend to confine its benefits to a comparatively small number.

Our present plan is, to school, discipline, and morally and religiously instruct them, as a means of correcting their faults, and preparing them for apprenticeship; and when they make choice of the kind of trade, or employment, they wish to follow, to indent them to persons of respectable character, in the country,

away from their former corrupting influences. By this means, the good work, which, we may hope, has commenced here, will be carried out around the family fireside, while mingling with such associates as the good sense of the master may approve. If successful, what great good will the State be accomplishing, in taking the ragged, noisy, vicious boy from the street, and after he has been through the disciplinary course of the Reform School, placing him in the quiet circle of a New England family, there to be educated, morally and intellectually, preparing him for future usefulness, to be a blessing to society, instead of dragging others with him to the vortex of crime and dissipation, and increasing our State Prison list,—as, in all probability, many would, had they not been taken from the degrading influences by which they were surrounded, before admission.

In the management of the institution, we have ever felt a correct public sentiment, or feeling, among the pupils, to be highly necessary. To this end, we have endeavored, as far as practicable, to render the School, in all its departments, as much *unlike* a prison as possible; to lead them to forget the past, and look forward with *hope* to the future. It is often the case, that a lad, who has mingled much with vice, feels himself forsaken by the virtuous; that, though there may be opportunity for others to rise, for *him*, there is little or no hope, on account of his known bad character. Such need much encouragement,—much moral and careful training,—to bring into action the dormant energies of the mind, to lead them to put forth sufficient effort to overcome temptation.

Every kind attention, and the tender treatment, which they may receive, from those who have the control of them, strikes a chord in their hearts, which calls into action their better feelings, and prepares them for receiving and appreciating the good counsel of the instructor or master.

The *mind* must be administered to, as well as the body; hence, the propriety of bestowing upon it that kind of treatment which will bring it under the control of reason.

The pupils are divided, as far as labor is concerned, into three departments, viz., farming, mechanical, and domestic. During the summer, about one fourth have been employed in our farming operations,—one fifth in the various domestic operations, which includes cooking, baking, washing, ironing, and the care

of the dormitories, school rooms, &c., and the remainder at some mechanical employment.

We have made the labor on the farm a reward for good behaviour, as far as practicable, by selecting those for farmers, whose good conduct merits our approbation, and by alternating from the shop to the farm, giving those usually employed in the shop or domestic department, an opportunity to labor a few days occasionally upon the farm. This has operated well,—affording an agreeable change in labor. Their time for each day is divided, by devoting four hours to instruction in school, in two sessions of two hours each;—six hours to labor, in two sessions of three hours each;—five and one half hours to moral and religious instruction, recreation and miscellaneous duties, and eight and one half to sleep.

The discipline of the institution has been a matter of great solicitude; commencing with inexperienced assistants, (as far as this class of boys is concerned,) with no established system in operation, and with a very rapid increase of the inmates, it has been more difficult to manage the institution successfully, than will be the case hereafter.

We adopt the Grade system. This system consists of four grades, designated by the numerals 1, 2, 3, 4,—1 being the highest grade. When a boy enters the institution, he is placed in the third grade; if his conduct is bad, after admonition, he is degraded as a punishment, to the fourth,—if good, after a proper time, he is promoted to the second; and should he continue to improve in his conduct, he enters the first grade, but not until he has been in the school two months.

We also have a subdivision of the first grade, called the class of "*Truth and Honor*,"—a degree which indicates the highest rank known in the school. For punishment, we degrade from a higher to a lower, and for encouragement, promote from a lower to a higher, rank. These grades do not refer at all to intellectual progress, but are confined to their moral standing entirely, and are applied to their conduct, not only in the school room, but in the shop, playground, and on the farm.

This system, in our view, is a just one, as it places the lad where his daily standing must correspond with his character; which must be the case in manhood, and which actually, though not in form, exists in society. Upon most boys, it has

a much greater effect than the most severe corporal punishment. It leads them to value character, as on this plan, his grade-number shows the character and standing that every boy sustains in the institution.

Punishment for offences is not inflicted at the time of their commission, but in every department a record is made of all cases of misdemeanor, also of all those worthy of commendation, and the account is settled in the presence of the boys every evening, and then punishment is inflicted, reprimand given, or in slight cases a mark of misdemeanor is recorded. From this record-book the grades are reorganized weekly. Corporal punishment and confinement are inflicted only in the fourth grade, and then only as a *last resort*.

We depend much more upon appeals to reason, and pointing out the consequences of a life of vice, than upon *any* punishment. Much more can usually be gained by kindness and appeals to conscience, than by any other means. Boys of this class generally have but little self-respect, therefore great effort is made to lead them to respect themselves. To this end, we permit a boy to go to the village,—to labor on any part of the farm unattended, &c., upon his pledge of returning promptly, and observing the regulations of the institution. Many have been permitted to do so, and not an instance of a breach of trust in this respect, has occurred, which argues strongly in favor of our system. Thus treated, they do not regard themselves as in the confinement of a prison; they become interested in our affairs, and speak of *our* farm, *our* cattle, &c., as though they were interested in their proper management,—which could not be the case if they considered themselves watched in every movement.

We have sent out parties of boys to labor on distant parts of the farm, placing one of their number as monitor to direct in their work, and have realized much assistance in the labor of our farm by this plan. We daily send boys to the village, to mill, and to towns around us, on business. Some of those who were sent here for larceny, have been trusted to pay and collect bills.

Most of the carting of our supplies has been done by the boys, taking the entire charge of a two-horse team. Though our confidence has been generously bestowed, it has ever been rewarded by their faithfulness. We grant them many privileges for good

conduct,—such as an excursion on our beautiful pond, in a boat, in summer, and sliding, coasting and skating, in winter,—inviting them to spend a few hours in our parlor, occasionally taking tea with us, or accompanying us to ride.

In this connection, we desire to improve the present opportunity to return our grateful acknowledgments to George Denny, Esq., for the kind manner he has ever assisted us in granting favors to the boys. On the 4th of July, the *first grade*, consisting of about seventy boys, were invited to his residence, where they luxuriated in his garden, upon strawberries, and were delighted with the generous collation provided by him. On Thanksgiving evening, the class of “Truth and Honor” returned from his residence, highly pleased with a similar entertainment.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

The School Department has been in the immediate charge of Rev. T. D. P. Stone, with four assistants. He remarks as follows :—

“One great object in arranging the details of the school room has been to secure the power and habits of attention to study,—to promote self respect, and induce pupils to make efforts to gain the love, confidence and respect of others. It has been another great object to inculcate obligation to improve, as a duty to God, our Commonwealth, country, and the world. The wish to make study attractive, and render self-control voluntary, as far as possible, has been paramount to any desire for advancement from page to page.

“The relative standing of pupils, as to mental culture, is designated by four grades. These are divided, the two lowest into four classes; each of the others into three classes. Grade First, embraces beginners in reading; these attend, principally, to learning to read, but as soon as they can do so profitably, begin oral arithmetic. Grade Second, includes those who can read easy words. Besides reading and spelling, they study the first half of Colburn’s Arithmetic, and the beginning of Smith’s small Geography. Grade Third, comprises pupils who read ordinary passages at sight, and attend to reading, spelling, Colburn’s Arithmetic, and Smith’s small Geography. Grade Fourth, read and spell in classes, spell on slates, and study Robinson’s

Arithmetic, and the large geography of Smith, and Wells's Grammar."

The number in each class is as follows :—

Grades.	First.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.
Class 1st, . . .	17	27	24	24
" 2d, . . .	22	19	24	24
" 3d, . . .	17	17	24	18
" 4th, . . .	24	19	-	-
Advanced Class, . .	-	-	-	10
Totals, . . .	80	82	72	76

There has been some attention to declamation, singing, and writing, and a small class has recently commenced the study of algebra. The school is divided into two departments, accommodated in two large school rooms, with a recitation room connected with each.

LABOR.

Average employment of those now in School.

In Shoe Shop,	105
Sewing Shop,	95.
Farming, and other out door employments,	44
Laundry,	20
Kitchen, cooking and baking,	19
Scrubbing and cleaning house,	23
Miscellaneous, including whitewashing, &c.,	4

310

It should be remarked, that, so far as employment is concerned, we have labored under great disadvantages; as we commenced the year with no established plan, and our shops were without tools. It soon became necessary to decide upon some mechanical employment, for those who could not profitably be employed on the farm. The selection of the business to be carried on in our shops, suitable for the boys, was a subject of much deliberation. It was thought advisable, on the whole, to open two shops; one to make and repair their clothes, bedding, &c., and another for manufacturing and closing boots and shoes. The operations of both are herewith submitted. The following statement, of the result of the Shoe Shop, is made by

the overseer, Mr. G. W. Lincoln, who has had the immediate charge of this department:—

Manufactured 8,082 pairs shoes, and closed 14,354 pairs boots and shoes.

Amount received for shoes sold,	.	.	\$840 01
“ “ “ closing boots and shoes,	.	.	457 31
“ of work done for Institution,	.	.	574 35
“ “ shoes now on hand,	.	.	828 70
“ “ stock “ “ “	.	.	131 35
			<hr/>
			\$2,831 72
Expended for stock, during the year,	.	\$1,689 71	
“ “ tools, and furnishing shop,		465 72	
“ “ wages and board of overseer,		398 50	
			<hr/>
			\$2,553 93
Deduct present value of tools,	.	372 58	
			<hr/>
			2,181 35
			<hr/>
Balance, in favor of shop,	.	.	\$650 37
			<hr/>

The Sewing Shop has been managed by a matron, with one assistant. During the earlier part of the year, owing to the rapid increase of boys, and their want of experience in sewing, we were unable to make their clothing as fast as needed; consequently, were obliged to procure other assistance; but we hope hereafter, to be able to furnish all necessary clothing. In this shop, we have usually placed the smallest boys.

The following statement, we gather from the matron's monthly reports, showing what has been accomplished in this department:—

Made 331 Jackets,	Made 326 Pillow-cases,
“ 632 pairs Pants,	“ 204 Pillows,
“ 412 “ Suspenders,	“ 230 Bed spreads,
“ 243 “ Socks,	“ 26 Towels,
“ 225 Aprons,	“ 2 Curtains,
48 Handkfs., hemmed,	400 pairs Socks run,
“ 718 Shirts,	261 Knit Jackets finished,
222 Hats, bound,	Repaired 1108 Jackets,
234 Blankets, do.,	“ 4681 pairs Pants,
“ 412 Sheets,	“ 1068 “ Socks,
“ 260 Bed-ticks,	“ 1417 “ Shirts,

FARM.

Mr. James Leach, the steward and farmer, has had the immediate management of the farm.

We have endeavored to commence such improvements on the farm, and lay out, for future operations, such plans, as seemed to us adapted to render its future productiveness available, to the greatest extent.

Much of the labor of those employed on the farm, has been performed on permanent improvements ; removing old buildings, and grading about the institution ; digging cellar, for new house ; making roads ; digging wells, and trench to carry water to the institution building ; all of which has been done by the boys, with their overseers.

We have also devoted considerable attention to preparing the ground, for the cultivation of fruit and vegetables, for the market. We have procured and transplanted, one hundred and four peach trees, twenty cherry, twenty-two plum, thirty-two pear, and eleven hundred and forty-four apple trees,—making a total of one thousand three hundred and twenty-two fruit trees. We have also made preparation for, and commenced, plantations of strawberries, raspberries, and currants. A few years hence, the institution will reap great benefit from these sources. The boys have entered into the labors of the farm with much alacrity. During the early part of the season, their labor was comparatively worthless, owing to their want of experience; but they have made great advancement in the knowledge of agricultural pursuits, and many of them, under the kind care of the steward, have become very useful on the farm.

The following statement is submitted, showing the result of our farming operations.

1st 4 months, from Dec. 1, 1848, to April 1, 1849,	82½ days.
2d 4 " " April 1 to Aug. 1, . .	3055 "
3d 4 " " Aug. 1 to Dec. 1. . .	4310 "

Total, 7447½ "

3146 of which, have been expended on the several improvements, not immediately connected with the farm.

The following are the principal productions of the farm, with the estimated value, by the steward.

37 tons English Hay, valued at \$12 per ton,	.	\$444 00
26 " Meadow " " 6 "	.	156 00
10 " Corn Fodder, " 5 "	.	50 00
5 " Oat Straw, " 6 "	.	30 00
821 bushels Potatoes, " 50 cts., bush.,	.	410 50
470 " Corn, " 75 "	.	352 50
150 " Oats, " 42 "	.	63 00
4½ " Rye, " \$1 "	.	4 50
1 " Dry Peas, " 2 "	.	2 00
9 " Dry Beans, " 1 50 "	.	13 50
37 " English Turnips, 20 "	.	7 40
300 " Swedish " 20 "	.	60 00
98 " Beets, valued at 25 "	.	24 50
329 " Carrots, " 25 "	.	82 25
2500 Pumpkins, " 2 cts. each,	.	50 00
2398 lbs. Pork, " 7½ cts. per lb.	.	179 85
397 " Veal, " 6 "	.	24 72
1155 " Beef, " 5¾ "	.	66 41
300 Cabbages, " 6 cts. each,	.	18 00
6641 gallons Milk, " 11 cts. per gall.,	.	730 51
582 lbs. Butter " 20 cts. per lb.,	.	116 40
60 cords of Wood, " \$4 50 per cord,	.	270 00
Garden Vegetables, Winter Squashes, &c.,	.	25 00
		<hr/>
		\$3,181 04

The live stock, now on the farm, consists of

4 Oxen,	2 Bulls,	4 Heifers,	2 Horses,
16 Cows,	6 Steers,	7 Calves,	14 Swine.

During the year, all the old buildings have been removed to proper locations, remodelled, and put in complete repair. A farmhouse has been commenced, which is now nearly completed; and preparation has been made to bring water from the pond, by means of a force-pump, to be worked by a windmill; which, when completed, will carry the water to one of the towers, to supply all parts of the building. It will also be valuable in case of fire. This is now much needed, as our present means of supply of water, are nearly exhausted.

HEALTH.

The health of our family has been remarkable. There has been no case of sickness of any importance, except the measles, and the disorders consequent upon it. This disease was introduced in the spring, by a lad from Newburyport, who was taken sick the day after his admission.

All are required to bathe their entire persons, once a week, in a bath of about blood heat, in winter, and as often, or oftener, in the pond, in summer. This, together with regular habits of diet, out-door exercise and general contentment, has tended to give us good health. At the date of this report, there is not one of the three hundred and ten boys connected with our family, who is unable to attend regularly to his labor and school duties. There has not been a case requiring the aid of a physician, for more than five months.

The following letter is from the attending physician :—

“ Westborough, Dec. 1, 1849.

“ MR. LINCOLN,—

“ Dear Sir,—The report which I have to make to you upon the sanitary condition of this institution for the past year, must be pleasing to all who feel an interest in the welfare of its inmates. During the spring months, and June, the matron and several of the boys,—eight or ten,—were sick with the measles,—requiring, with the exception of the matron, but little else than cool air, low diet, &c. One subject, with congestive rumonia following measles, is the only one having had disease putting on alarming symptoms, during the year.

“ We report one case of inflammatory rheumatism of considerable severity. Scrofulous ophthalmia, and diseases of the skin, are occasionally met with in the newly-arrived, and would often be exceedingly intractable, were it not for the judicious control exercised by the superintendent and his officers, over the diet, cleanliness, &c., of those under their care. Added to these external reforms, influences on health so salutary, the mind at ease, and unsuspected love gained by kindness and solicitude for their well-being, where before the depressing passions were entailed and nourished by a vicious course of life, must con-

tribute greatly to the healthfulness of an institution of this character.

Yours respectfully,

HENRY H. RISING."

LIBRARY AND PERIODICALS.

We have a small library, most of which has been furnished through the benevolence of the following individuals, to whom we render our grateful acknowledgments for their kind remembrance of the erring youth under our care.

A complete set of Chambers's Miscellany, and other books, from Messrs. Gould, Kendall & Lincoln, of Boston. Sixty volumes of Book of Proverbs, from Miss Augusta and Robert Denny, of Westborough. One hundred copies of Sabbath School Vocalist, presented by the Author, Mr. O. B. Bullard, of Holliston. Twenty dollars' worth of books from the Society for Diffusion of Christian Knowledge. Interesting books from John Ball, Esq., of Salem. Some two hundred volumes from Miss Charlotte E. and Edward M. Denny, of Westborough. Public Documents, from Hon. John Davis, of Worcester, and a supply of Bibles from the Massachusetts Bible Society.

Besides the books received, we have been favored by the kindness of the editors and conductors of newspapers, and others, with a weekly supply of papers, which have given our youthful family much pleasure. The American Traveller, Olive Branch, Youth's Companion, and Scholar's Penny Gazette, have been received from Boston. Christian Citizen, Massachusetts Spy, Worcester Palladium, National Ægis, from Worcester. Also, Cambridge Chronicle, Lowell American, and Chicopee Mirror. Two copies of the Cataract are sent by Thomas Russell, Esq., of Boston; and the Albany Cultivator by Joseph Breck, Esq., of Boston.

The boys read them with interest; besides imparting much useful information, they divert the mind of the boy from his past vicious course. He learns what is transpiring in the world, and their influence on his character tends to prepare him to be a good citizen.

With our large number of boys, our library is yet far too small. We hope to see it soon much enlarged.

RELIGIOUS EXERCISES AND SABBATH SCHOOL.

The Rev. T. D. P. Stone, the principal of the school, is also the chaplain. Our religious services consist of morning and evening prayers in the school rooms, and on the Sabbath, two regular services, and Sabbath school, in the chapel. A most interesting spectacle is presented from Sabbath to Sabbath; a congregation assembled, composed almost entirely of youth, who generally listen attentively to the preaching.

Much interest has been manifested in the Sabbath school. About twenty teachers from the congregations in our vicinity, have kindly volunteered their services. We regard the Sabbath school as a valuable auxiliary in the work in which we are engaged. We acknowledge ourselves under the deepest obligations to our friends who have so kindly encouraged us by their labor as teachers.

CONCLUSION.

Having passed through the first year, it is proper for us to review the past, and endeavor to profit by its experience. It is obvious that very much depends upon the right commencement, and on the right system being first adopted; as it is much easier to commence right, than to correct established errors. It has been a subject of much thought and labor, to know what would be for the interest of the institution. We have endeavored to lay that foundation upon which the great enterprise of nipping crime in the bud will prosper. With what success, as indicated by the experience of the past year, is left, gentlemen, for you and others to decide.

The enterprise in which we are engaged, is regarded by many, as an experiment; consequently, much interest has been manifested by the intelligent public, to witness its operations and prospects of success. We feel that we have great reason for gratitude to the Giver of all good, that the year has closed so auspiciously.

I would express my thanks to the Board of Trustees, for the care and scrutiny which they have bestowed on the affairs of the Reform School, and for the generous manner in which they have ever assisted me by advice and direction, in the peculiarly responsible duties of the school.

To the steward and farmer, Mr. James Leach, and matron, Miss C. H. Porter, I am indebted for every aid in their power to bestow.

Mr. O. K. Hutchinson, the first assistant teacher, has acted as my assistant in the management of the institution. I have received from him, the other teachers,—heads of departments, and other assistants,—much valuable aid. I acknowledge with grateful feelings, their sympathy and desire to lessen my duties in the severe labors of the past year.

Commending the institution and its youthful inmates to the care of the government, and protection of the Almighty Director of all things, I respectfully submit this Report.

WILLIAM R. LINCOLN, *Superintendent.*

STATE REFORM SCHOOL,
Westborough, Nov. 30, 1849. }

APPENDIX.

THE following letter is from the master of a lad, indented in the early part of autumn:—

November 28, 1849.

Dear Sir,—I write in relation to J. D., who was apprenticed to me some time since. He is well, and in good spirits; is very attentive to his business, and seems pleased with his situation. He also has a disposition to improve his leisure time in reading, which augurs well for the future; and, thus far, he is in every respect a *good boy*.

Respectfully yours,

F.

The following letter is from an apprenticed lad, directed to the superintendent. He was committed in the early part of the year, by Boston Municipal Court:—

November 5, 1849.

My Dear Friend,—I now take this opportunity to write you a few lines, to inform you how I am getting along. Mr. ——— is a very good man, indeed, and I like my place very well, and trade, also. I have been reading your letter, and think it contains very good advice, for any boy who leaves that institution. I think that the State Reform School has been the means of saving me from ruin. I thank God, I was permitted to enter that school; and I hope that it will save a great many others. I am now out of the city, where there are not so many temptations, and can now learn a good trade, and become a respectable man. I have not been here long enough, to let you know much about this place, but it is a quiet village. I attend meeting every Sabbath.

Yours respectfully,

D.

The following extract is introduced to show the feelings of boys in the Reform School. The writer was committed for a high offence, and, during the first part of the time with us, was very refractory. It was written by himself to his mother:—

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, }
November 14, 1849. }

“Dear Mother,—Your beautiful letter inspired me with love to God, to think he has preserved you, and all the family, from that scourge, the cholera, which has destroyed so many of the inhabitants of the United States.

On Sunday, Nov. 11, Rev. Mr. Dowse preached to us, on the subject of honoring all men, but especially on honoring our parents.

When I heard him speak of honoring our parents, it made me feel as if I had done very wrong in not honoring you; and also, that I ought to love and honor you as never before.

Dear mother, I know that you have done all in your power, to make me become a useful and respectable man; but to your many kind advices have I lent a deafening ear. It pains me to think how cruel and unjust I have been to you, in disregarding your kind advice. When I think of these things, it makes me feel as if I was unworthy to call you mother; but I hope the time will soon come, when I shall have the pleasure of seeing you *ble*ss the day, that there ever was such an institution as this.”

HOUSE.....

.....No. 14.

DOCUMENTS

RELATING TO

THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.



JANUARY, 1851.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Trustees of the State Reform School respectfully present to the Governor and Council, their **FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT** of the concerns of that institution, for the year ending November 30th, 1850.

The reports of the Superintendent and other officers of the school, which accompany and make part of this report, are so full and satisfactory in their details, and exhibit so completely the present condition of the institution and its history for the past year, that we may refer to them, without unnecessary repetition on our part, for the ample information which they are adapted to convey.

Upon the resignation of the Rev. Mr. Stone, in January last, who officiated in the double capacity of Teacher and Chaplain, some change in the organization of these departments was deemed expedient. The teachers were placed under the more immediate direction of the Superintendent, and the Chaplain was released from the ordinary duties and responsibilities of a teacher in the school-room. Experience has, thus far, proved this alteration to be a salutary one. The present Chaplain has found employment for his whole time in the discharge of the appropriate duties of his station, and we would refer to his report, as containing ample evidence of the faithful and devoted manner in which those duties have been discharged.

It was also believed by the Trustees, that to relieve the Principal from some of the arduous duties of his position, and to secure the proper management of the affairs of the institution, the appointment of an Assistant Superintendent had become necessary. Accordingly, in March last, Orville K. Hutchinson, who had been for some time successfully employed as an assistant teacher, was appointed to that station, the duties of which, he has since performed in a manner which has met the acceptance and entire approbation of this Board.

In connection with the successful cultivation of the farm, it is the wish and intention of the Trustees to promote a system of gradual improvement, ornamental as well as economical, which shall make the appearance of the establishment attractive and inviting to the stranger who may visit it, and creditable to the Commonwealth that has founded it. This may be accomplished mainly by the labor of the boys, for we entirely concur with the Superintendent in the opinion that sufficient experience has already proved, that it is practicable and safe to employ a large portion of the more trustworthy among them, in the ordinary daily operations of the farm and garden, as well as in the embellishment and improvement of the grounds.

We received last Summer, from the trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, a valuable present of a pair of cattle of the North Devon breed, which are now in our possession, and for which our acknowledgments, on behalf of the Commonwealth, were duly made to that Board.

In the enumeration of the products of the farm for the past season, it should be stated, that the fields planted with potatoes would, in an average season, have yielded a crop of about fifteen hundred bushels; but that, in consequence of the potato blight which prevailed so extensively in this section of the country, scarcely more than one fourth of that quantity was obtained.

The services of Mr. Leach, the Steward and Farmer, continues to merit our commendation. We are much indebted to him for the improved condition and appearance which the farm already exhibits under his careful management and direction.

By the Treasurer's report it will appear that the whole amount of expenditure during the year has been \$31,819 58, and that there is a balance due to him in account, of \$4793 38. To explain this deficiency, it should be observed that there are, at the time of making this report, three hundred and twenty-four boys in the school; and that through the whole year the number, though varying, has always exceeded three hundred, upon which number the estimates of last year were made. The cost of beds, bedding and clothing for these has exceeded the estimate by \$500. The cost of introducing a sufficient supply of water to the building, an arrangement of indispensable necessity in our opinion, considerably exceeded the anticipa-

tions of our last report, which was based upon the estimates of the engineer. The water has also been introduced to the barn for the supply of the stock, the expense of which was not included in these estimates. These extra expenses and the cost of finishing the farm house will account for about three thousand dollars of the deficiency. The damage by fire last summer, while it showed the incalculable value of this supply of water by which it was restricted to comparatively narrow limits, still required some hundred dollars for repairs. These items will leave but a very small excess in the current incidental expenses beyond our estimate, to make up the balance due the Treasurer in his account.

For the support of the institution for the ensuing year, the Trustees propose to ask an appropriation of \$22,500, viz :

For provisions and clothing for three hundred				
and twenty-five boys, - - -	-	\$10,800	00	
For salary, wages and support of officers, -	-	7,000	00	
For fuel, lights and current expenses, -	-	4,525	00	
For workshop, farming tools and improve-				
ments on farm, - - -	-	2,700	00	
For balance due the Treasurer, - - -	-	4,793	38	
				\$29,818 38
Deduct for income of the Lyman fund, to				
be applied to some of these purposes, \$3,500		00		
And for estimated proceeds of the labor				
of the boys, - - -	-	3,818	38	
				7,318 38
				\$22,500 00

We cannot refrain from the renewed expression of our sense of the obligation we are under to the Superintendent, for the skill and fidelity with which he has continued to discharge the arduous and responsible duties of his station during the past year. If success has attended our efforts, and we think in some good degree it has, we are greatly indebted for it, under Providence, to his untiring and judicious exertions. To the officers of the institution, generally, not forgetting, in an especial manner, the worthy matron and the other heads of the female departments, our thanks are due for their faithfulness and

diligence in discharging the various trusts reposed in them, and for the harmony and good feeling which have prevailed, almost without exception, through every department of the institution.

Before closing this report, permit us to call the attention of the government to some of the letters from the boys who have been apprenticed, which form the Appendix to the report of the Superintendent. They are to us full of encouragement and promise. When we contrast their present condition with that of some of these boys before they were brought to the Reform School, twenty-five of them having been arrested for offences five times or more before they came to the school, and one of them not less than thirty times, may we not feel authorized to say, that, in the mere economical view of the subject, the Commonwealth is the gainer, from the altered and improved condition of these boys? What, then, must be our consolation, when we regard them in their higher and truer position, as immortal and accountable beings, restored to the paths of virtue from the way that was leading them down to destruction.

Respectfully submitted,

OTIS ADAMS,
GEORGE DENNY,
WILLIAM T. ANDREWS,
WILLIAM LIVINGSTON,
RUSSELL A. GIBBS,
SAMUEL WILLISTON,
THOMAS A. GREENE.

WESTBOROUGH, *December 7th*, 1850.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents his **FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.**

The Treasurer charges himself from December 1, 1849, to November 30th, 1850, inclusive, as follows :

For amounts received from the State treasury, .	\$22,600 00
For amounts received from W. R. Lincoln, Superintendent, being the amounts received for work, &c.,	3,426 20
For amount received from Lyman Fund, .	1,000 00
Balance carried to new account,	4,793 38
	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>
	<u>\$31,819 58</u>

He credits himself with balance, November 3, 1849, \$2,558 83

And for the following payments :

Medical attendance and medicine,	218 56
Tools, leather and materials for shoe shop,	797 69
Buildings, improvements and repairs,	5,535 27
Salaries, wages and labor,	6,380 04
Farming tools, stock and improvements on farm,	1,900 65
Fuel and lights,	1,087 24
Provisions and groceries,	7,198 16
Books, stationery and printing,	228 38
Furniture and Bedding,	1,274 33
Clothing, &c.,	3,530 70
Trustees' expenses,	281 82

Transportation and railroad freight,	.	.	458	91
Postage,	.	.	40	12
Miscellaneous,	.	.	328	88
				<hr/>
				\$31,819 58
				<hr/>

Tools, Leather and Materials for Shoe Shop, include

Leather; 12,427 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet,	.	.	.	.	172	23
Do. 1,552 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	.	.	.	.	238	31
Binding and lining,	.	.	.	.	11	92
Damage on boots and shoes,	.	.	.	.	12	11
Pegs, tacks, blacking and wax,	.	.	.	.	36	02
Freight on shoes sold,	.	.	.	.	20	01
Travelling expenses,	.	.	.	.	4	20
Thread, 464 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	.	.	.	.	188	15
Tools,	.	.	.	.	114	74
						<hr/>
						\$797 69

Buildings, Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials for finishing farm house,	.	\$1,059	01
Labor and materials on general repairs,	. . .	761	41
Iron work,	. . . . .	97	69
Fitting up apothecary room,	. . .	18	10
Finishing drying-room in laundry,	. . .	177	65
Paints, oil, &c.,	. . . . .	98	37
Enlarging piggery,	. . . . .	171	37
Conveying water from pond to house,	. . .	2,585	47
Balance and repairs on steam apparatus,	. . .	279	08
Cooking range, &c.,	. . . . .	181	92
School desks,	. . . . .	45	00
Carpenter's and blacksmith's tools,	. . .	25	67
Locks, keys, door-handles, &c.,	. . .	34	53
<hr/>			
\$5,535 27			

Books, Stationery and Printing, include

The printing of 300 copies of by-laws, . . .	\$31 00
School books,	130 90
Blanks,	7 24
Slates,	10 31
Writing books, paper, pens, pencils, &c., .	48 93
	<hr/>
	\$228 38

Furniture and Bedding include

Ticking, 585 yards,	\$64 55
Sheeting, 2,477 yards,	241 80
Diaper, table linen and crash, 312 yards, .	71 66
Prints and batting,	25 09
Curled hair, 123 pounds,	31 81
Bedsteads, bureaus, chairs and mattresses, .	93 48
Cot bedsteads,	26 25
Window shades, 22,	11 17
Baskets, pails, tubs and other wooden ware, .	54 27
Knives, forks and spoons,	24 80
Bells, 2,	1 00
Crockery, glass and earthen ware,	123 43
Barrels,	2 25
Tin and iron ware,	89 94
Stoves and funnels,	28 52
Thread, 55 pounds,	29 84
Brooms and brushes,	84 30
Lanterns and lamps, &c.,	94 87
Wringing press,	125 00
Straw for beds, 2,520 pounds,	7 62
Wire cloth, sacking, &c.,	13 43
Clocks,	29 25
	<hr/>
	\$1,274 33

Clothing includes

Satinets, 2,192 yards,	.	.	.	.	\$921 06
Denims, 1,649 yards,	.	.	.	.	236 78
Cotton cloth, 4,408 yards,	.	.	.	.	361 73
Brown linen, 81 yards,	.	.	.	.	17 01
Jackets, 799,	.	.	.	.	904 41
Linen sacks, 299,	.	.	.	.	203 03
Cloth for caps, 121½ yards,	.	.	.	.	91 12
Palm-leaf hats, binding, &c.,	.	.	.	.	84 94
Thread, 110 pounds,	.	.	.	.	118 44
Scissors,	.	.	.	.	11 55
Knit webbing, 58¾ yards,	.	.	.	.	34 85
Vesting, 104½ yards,	.	.	.	.	15 57
Frocking, 75 yards,	.	.	.	.	31 98
Needles, pins and thimbles,	.	.	.	.	20 29
Buttons, 339 gross,	.	.	.	.	58 76
Yarn, 101½ pounds,	.	.	.	.	77 04
Socks, 45 dozen,	.	.	.	.	148 50
Shoes, 50 pairs,	.	.	.	.	35 00
Boots, 65 pairs,	.	.	.	.	108 92
Handkerchiefs,	.	.	.	.	22 22
Suspenders, 4 dozen,	.	.	.	.	3 40
Combs, 142 dozen,	.	.	.	.	10 46
Ribbon, tapes, braid, wax, &c.,	.	.	.	.	13 64

\$3,530 7

Provisions and Groceries include

Flour, 645 barrels,	.	.	.	.	\$3,776 78
Rye meal, 159 bushels,	.	.	.	.	129 65
Indian meal, 288 bushels,	.	.	.	.	229 75
Buckwheat, 50 pounds,	.	.	.	.	1 63
Beef, 14,352 pounds,	.	.	.	.	636 46
Pork, 1,074 pounds,	.	.	.	.	60 89
Mutton, 974 pounds,	.	.	.	.	41 69
Veal, 698½ pounds,	.	.	.	.	52 03
Tripe and sausages, 105 pounds,	.	.	.	.	9 31
Poultry, 65½ pounds,	.	.	.	.	8 16

Fish, 5,998 pounds,	.	.	.	.	\$142 59
Mackerel, 2 barrels; herring, 10 boxes,	.	.	.	.	28 50
Salt, 78½ bushels,	.	.	.	.	32 46
Potatoes, 309 bushels,	.	.	.	.	124 14
Beans, 63½ bushels,	.	.	.	.	86 58
Rice, 5,497 pounds,	.	.	.	.	203 92
Sugar, 2,306 pounds,	.	.	.	.	172 40
Coffee, 267 pounds,	.	.	.	.	36 84
Tea, 84 pounds,	.	.	.	.	35 38
Chocolate, 825 pounds, \$103 12; broma, 26					
pounds, \$3 12,	.	.	.	.	106 24
Molasses, 3,455½ gallons,	.	.	.	.	522 15
Butter, 1,018 pounds,	.	.	.	.	214 01
Cheese, 189 pounds,	.	.	.	.	15 12
Lard, 1,182 pounds,	.	.	.	.	87 65
Soap, 2,510½ pounds,	.	.	.	.	122 91
Potash, 902 pounds,	.	.	.	.	60 88
Starch, 37 pounds,	.	.	.	.	2 96
Tapioca, 210 pounds,	.	.	.	.	17 88
Crackers,	.	.	.	.	21 80
Eggs, 23 dozen,	.	.	.	.	3 25
Hops, 29½ pounds,	.	.	.	.	4 92
Dried apples, fruit, &c.,	.	.	.	.	63 34
Saleratus, 1,241 pounds,	.	.	.	.	69 42
Cream tartar, 82 pounds,	.	.	.	.	17 76
Ginger, pepper and other small spices,	.	.	.	.	36 88
Vinegar, 114½ gallons,	.	.	.	.	11 45
Barrels, 9,	.	.	.	.	3 20
Miscellaneous,	.	.	.	.	7 18
					<hr/>
					\$7,198 16

Farming Tools, Stock, and Improvements on the Farm, include

Two-horse sled, 1; ox-sled, 1; roller, 1; cart, 1;	
cart body, 1; handcart, 1; hay cutter, 1;	
wheelbarrows, 5; hand plows, 3; ox plow, 1;	
harrow, 1; scythes and snaths, 2 each; shovels,	
60; hoes, 38; spades, 6; manure forks, 6; hay	
forks, 6; picks, 3; yokes, 3; chains, 2; rakes,	
42; plow points, &c.,	295 50

Fan mill, 1,	.	.	.	.	.	\$14 00
Horse, 1,	.	.	.	.	.	100 00
Cows, 2,	.	.	.	.	.	90 00
Swine, 5,	.	.	.	.	.	33 33
Fruit trees, 152,	.	.	.	.	.	27 05
Grain, 224 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	153 48
Shorts and oil meal, 3½ tons,	.	.	.	.	.	74 24
Grass and garden seeds, &c.,	.	.	.	.	.	77 65
Strawberry and raspberry plants, grape vines, &c.,	.	.	.	.	.	24 50
Hay and straw,	.	.	.	.	.	171 98
Rye for seed, 11 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	11 00
Pasturing young cattle,	.	.	.	.	.	7 32
Salt, 48 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	13 20
Plaster, 9,900 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	31 00
Guano, 4,992 pounds,	.	.	.	.	.	138 99
Labor laying wall, blasting rocks, and butch-						
ering,	.	.	.	.	.	310 67
Blacksmith work,	.	.	.	.	.	98 95
Churn, pails, tubs, pans, &c.,	.	.	.	.	.	12 80
Strawberry boxes, 150,	.	.	.	.	.	8 23
Bags,	.	.	.	.	.	12 95
Repairing carts, wagons and tools,	.	.	.	.	.	22 75
Whips, repairing harnesses, &c.,	.	.	.	.	.	13 19
Conveying water from hill to barn,	.	.	.	.	.	83 33
Potatoes to plant, 89 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	35 85
Sawing lumber at mill,	.	.	.	.	.	24 90
Miscellaneous,	.	.	.	.	.	13 79
						<hr/>
						\$1,900 65

Fuel and Lights include

Coal, 148 tons,	.	.	.	.	.	\$702 49
Oil, 556 gallons,	.	.	.	.	.	365 15
Charcoal, 174 bushels,	.	.	.	.	.	15 66
Lampwicks and wicking,	.	.	.	.	.	3 94
						<hr/>
						\$1,087 24

Miscellaneous include

Expenses of pursuing and returning elopers, .	\$32 82
Travelling expenses on business for institution, .	31 90
Buffalo robes, &c.,	16 75
Iron safe and copying press,	115 15
Forest trees about the institution,	43 37
Expenses returning boys to friends, &c.,	24 44
Ropes and pulleys,	7 20
Advertising and newspapers,	10 00
Bees, house and hives, &c.,	22 00
Coffins and expenses of funerals,	25 25
	<hr/>
	\$328 88

LYMAN FUND.

December 1st, 1849,	\$ 0,000 00	
Do. do. balance of in-		
come on hand,		\$622 51
June 27th, 1850, received of exec-		
utors of Mr. Lyman,	25,000 00	
August 16th, 1850, received of ex-		
ecutors of Mr. Lyman,	25,000 00	
	<hr/>	
	\$70,000 00	
Received dividends and interest,		2,043 14
		<hr/>
		\$2,665 65
The fund is credited with amounts paid for bust		
of Mr. Lyman, books and printing, melodeon		
for chapel, water gauge, barometer, hydrome-		
ter, &c.,		
	\$780 11	
With interest for money borrowed		
for general account,		
	35 25	
Amount paid general account,	1,000 00	
	<hr/>	
		1,815 36
		<hr/>
Balance of income,		\$850 29

GEORGE DENNY.

Westborough, Nov. 30, 1850.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School, the Superintendent presents his Third Annual Report.

GENTLEMEN:—We present you with a report of our labors and operations during the year just closed. You will see by the accompanying tables, that the school has been much crowded during the entire year; having at no time less than three hundred boys, (the largest number the buildings were designed to accommodate,) and most of the time a much greater number.

Many applications for the admission of boys have been rejected, for want of proper accommodations.

The following tables have been carefully prepared, to present in a convenient form many important facts.

TABLE 1.

Showing the number of Admissions and general state of the Institution, from Dec. 1st, 1849, to Nov. 30th, 1850.

Boys in the house at the commencement of the year Dec. 1st, 1849,	310
Committed since,	106
Returned—1 by master, 1 escaped last year, returned since,	2
Number in the house during the year,	418
Discharged,	94
Remaining, Nov. 30th, 1850,	324

One hundred and eight boys have been received during the year, and probably as many more would have been committed, had there been room to accommodate them. Notwithstanding four hundred and eighteen boys have enjoyed the benefits of the institution during the year, we hear of a number of boys between the ages of nine and sixteen, who have recently been imprisoned in the county prisons of Massachusetts.

TABLE 2.

Admissions from each County, the past year and previously.

Counties.	1850.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable, - - - -	-	-	-
Bristol, - - - -	14	31	45
Berkshire, - - - -	3	6	9
Dukes, - - - -	-	-	-
Essex, - - - -	26	66	92
Franklin, - - - -	-	1	1
Hampden, - - - -	12	2	14
Hampshire, - - - -	-	3	3
Middlesex, - - - -	20	68	88
Nantucket, - - - -	1	-	1
Norfolk, - - - -	6	19	25
Plymouth, - - - -	-	2	2
Suffolk, - - - -	12	112	124
Worcester, - - - -	12	24	36
	106	334	440

Of those admitted the present year, the greatest number is from Essex County. Twelve only have been received from Suffolk County, as most of the boys, who have been before the Boston courts, have been committed to the House of Reformation for Juvenile Offenders, at South Boston; but we have received more from that county, since that institution has been filled.

TABLE 3.

Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and the Average Number of Boys, each month in the year.

Months.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Average No.
December, 1849, - - -	3	13	304
January, 1850, - - -	1	-	300
February, " - - -	3	1	302.28
March, " - - -	12	10	303.05
April, " - - -	13	11	304.2
May, " - - -	8	5	306.8
June, " - - -	12	13	307.8
July, " - - -	9	8	308.6
August, " - - -	4	1	311.2
September, " - - -	14	11	314.8
October, " - - -	16	10	319.6
November, " - - -	13	11	324.8
Yearly average, - - -	108	94	309

TABLE 4.

Showing the disposal of those discharged, from December 1st, 1849, to November 30th, 1850.

Discharged on expiration of sentence, - - - -	17
“ by Board of Trustees, - - - -	18
“ by order of Supreme Judicial Court, - - - -	2
Remanded and rejected as improper subjects, - - - -	7
Indented to Boot and Shoemakers, - - - -	9
“ “ Carpenters, - - - -	2
“ “ Farmers, - - - -	20
“ “ Coopers, - - - -	2
“ “ Printer, - - - -	1
“ “ Shoe Shavemaker, - - - -	1
“ “ Barber, - - - -	1
“ “ Trunkmaker, - - - -	2
“ “ Gardening, - - - -	1
“ “ Sawmaker, - - - -	1
“ “ Sailmaker, - - - -	1
“ “ Attend School, - - - -	2
	43
Delivered to Court of Common Pleas, - - - -	2
Escaped, - - - -	1
Died, - - - -	4
	—
Total, - - - -	94

Seventeen have been discharged on expiration of sentence. Some of the commitments in the first year after the institution was opened, were for short periods, which are now expiring, leaving the boys the only alternative of returning to their parents, in many cases to be again subjected to influences that brought them here.

We are confident in the assertion that, in most cases, the most desirable manner of dismissal from the institution, is by indenture; as by this means, the lad is placed under the steady parental control of a master, and at the same time, is removed from all former bad associations.

Only *one* has been returned by his master for bad conduct, of the whole number apprenticed since the opening of the institution.

Of the forty-three apprenticed during the past year, twenty were to *farmers*.

The farmers' life is beset with fewer temptations than most mechanical employments, as they are usually more retired from large villages.

TABLE 5.

Showing by what authority committed.

	1850.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas, - -	9	35	44
" Boston Municipal Court, - -	10	39	49
" Boston Police Court, - -	1	73	74
" Lawrence Police Court, - -	1	10	11
" Lynn " " - -	2	9	11
" Lowell " " - -	6	27	33
" Newburyport " " - -	3	16	19
" New Bedford " " - -	10	18	28
" Pittsfield " " - -	3	-	3
" Salem " " - -	15	26	41
" Worcester " " - -	4	6	10
" Taunton " " - -	1	-	1
" Justices of Peace in various towns,	27	75	102
" Trial Justices, - -	14	-	14
Total, - - -	106	334	440

TABLE 6.

Offences of all committed during the year ending November 30th, 1850, and previously.

	1850.	Previously.	Total.
For Larceny, - - -	41	119	160
" Stubbornness, - - -	47	110	157
" Idle and disorderly, - -	3	20	23
" Vagrancy, - - -	6	23	29
" Shop-breaking and stealing, -	3	17	20
" House-breaking and stealing, -	-	4	4
" Burglary, - - -	1	1	2
" Shop-breaking with intent to steal,	-	5	5
" Pilfering, - - -	2	7	9
" Having obscene books and prints for circulation, - -	-	2	2
" Common drunkard, - - -	-	2	2
" Malicious mischief, - - -	1	13	14
" Assault, - - -	1	2	3
" Trespass, - - -	-	4	4
" Arson, - - -	-	2	2
" Runaway, - - -	1	3	4
	106	334	440

Two hundred have been committed for thefts and petty pilferings; one hundred and fifty-seven for being stubborn and disobedient; fifty-two for being idle and disorderly, and for vagrancy; and thirty-one for various other offences.

As the inquiry is frequently made, "what constitutes the offence of *stubbornness*?" we propose to answer it by presenting some extracts from the record of the boys' previous history.

No. — "Has spent most of his time idling about the streets in company with other bad boys, and has been addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors and tobacco; has often been intoxicated, has indulged in lying, profanity, pilfering, and sleeping out."

No. — "Has been once imprisoned in the county prison for stubbornness; twice in the common jail for larceny; has spent much of his time in idleness, has been very profane, and much given to lying, and sleeping out."

No. — "Was sent to the House of Correction about a year since, for stubbornness. For four or five years has been in the habit of pilfering money and small articles from his mother; has been notoriously profane, having formed the habit of lying, and associating with a bad class of boys, often returning to his mother late at night."

No. — "Is a notorious truant from school, and home; addicted to the habits of chewing tobacco and profanity. He has associated with the worst class of boys; ran away from home many times, often staying away several days, and even months at a time, sleeping nights in stables, or any place that might afford him shelter. At two different times he was absent three months."

No. — "Has often taken money from his mother's purse, and when sent by his father to collect bills, has sometimes spent the money with bad associates, often remaining with them over night."

No. — "His father died about ten years since. He has often taken money from his mother, and treated her in the most insulting and shameful manner; throwing billets of wood at her, and threatening her life, so that she has been obliged to call in the neighbors and the watchman."

No. — "Was once fined for throwing stones at a market man; is a notorious pilferer, having taken money and small

articles too numerous to mention; also addicted to the habits of chewing and smoking tobacco, lying, profanity, and Sabbath breaking."

The above extracts are specimens of what may be found in our records. Sad as the picture is, yet such is the spectacle beheld in all similar institutions, and should lead to greater effort to ascertain and arrest the leading causes to such a state (of parental insubordination,) as evidently now exists in many families.

The causes leading to crime among the young are more fully investigated in another part of this report, to which your attention is directed.

TABLE 7.

Showing the length of the time of Sentences, the past year and previously.

	1850.	Previously.	Total.
During their minority, - -	95	247	342
Until twenty years old, - -	-	5	5
“ nineteen “ “ - -	1	-	1
“ eighteen “ “ - -	1	-	1
“ fourteen “ “ - -	-	1	1
For one year, - -	-	18	18
“ one year and six months, - -	-	3	3
“ two years, - -	1	19	20
“ three years, - -	2	22	24
“ four years, - -	1	3	4
“ four years and eight months, - -	1	-	1
“ five years, - -	-	8	8
“ five years, ten days, - -	1	-	1
“ six years, - -	1	5	6
“ eight years, - -	1	2	3
“ ten years, - -	1	1	2
	106	334	440

TABLE 8.

Showing the duration of Alternative Sentence, for the past year and previously.

	1850.	Previously.	Total.
During minority, - - -	2	-	2
For four years, - - -	1	2	3
“ three years, - - -	6	2	8
“ three years and six months, - - -	1	-	1
“ two years, - - -	2	24	26
“ one year and six months, - - -	-	6	6
“ one year, - - -	6	30	36
“ nine months, - - -	-	1	1
“ eight months, - - -	1	2	3
“ six months, - - -	39	75	114
“ five months, - - -	-	1	1
“ four months, - - -	1	11	12
“ three months, - - -	19	46	65
“ two months, - - -	15	87	102
“ one month, - - -	5	14	19
“ ninety days, - - -	4	-	4
“ sixty days, - - -	-	11	11
“ thirty days, - - -	2	8	10
“ one day, - - -	1	6	7
“ one month in work-house, - - -	1	2	3
“ thirty days in county jail, - - -	-	6	6
Total, - - -	106	334	440

TABLE 9.

The Nativity of all committed during the past year, and previously.

	1850.	Previously.	Total.	
Born in Ireland, - -	7	42	49	
" " France, - -	-	1	1	
" " England, - -	2	3	5	
" " Scotland, - -	-	3	3	
" " Canada, - -	-	5	5	
" " Nova Scotia, - -	-	3	3	
" " New Brunswick, -	2	9	11	
Foreigners, - -	-	-	-	77
Born in Massachusetts, -	71	220	291	
" " New Hampshire, -	8	9	17	
" " Vermont, - -	1	8	9	
" " Maine, - -	5	12	17	
" " Connecticut, - -	4	3	7	
" " Rhode Island, - -	2	6	8	
" " Pennsylvania, - -	-	3	3	
" " New York, - -	2	7	9	
" " New Jersey, - -	1	-	1	
" " Maryland, - -	1	-	1	
" " United States, - -	-	-	-	363
Total, - -	-	-	-	440

Of the three hundred and sixty-three born in the United States, one hundred and eight were of Irish parentage, five of English, and one, each, of German, Scotch, French, and Danish, the remaining two hundred and forty-seven were of American parents.

TABLE 10.

Ages of Boys when committed.

					1850.	Previously.	Total.
7 years of age,	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
8 do. do.	-	-	-	-	1	10	11
9 do. do.	-	-	-	-	4	17	21
10 do. do.	-	-	-	-	8	27	35
11 do. do.	-	-	-	-	9	37	46
12 do. do.	-	-	-	-	17	49	66
13 do. do.	-	-	-	-	14	37	51
14 do. do.	-	-	-	-	25	68	93
15 do. do.	-	-	-	-	28	72	100
16 do. do.	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
17 do. do.	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
18 do. do.	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
19 do. do.	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Unknown,	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Total,					106	334	440
Average age about 12½ years.							

More than one hundred boys have again gone into society, to enter the arena of life, which will give trial to the moral influence which we may hope has been exerted upon them here.

By the favorable accounts so far received from many of those who have been apprenticed, we are much encouraged in pursuing the work that has been commenced.

When we contrast their moral, intellectual and physical condition, with their state when admitted, and receive assurance through the letters from those who have left, that they look back with gratitude to the State Reform School, for the benefits it has conferred upon them, we rejoice with them that Massachusetts has so nobly set the example for her sister states, in providing an asylum for her delinquent children.

It is gratifying to see so many states and cities following in the work. Besides the old institutions at New York, Philadelphia, and Boston, the State of New York has established a Home of Refuge at Rochester; New Jersey has established one in the vicinity of Princeton; and Maine another, near Portland. Similar institutions have also been founded by the cities of Cincinnati, Baltimore and Providence.

That at Cincinnati, established at an expense of one hundred

and fifty thousand dollars, commenced receiving boys last September.

The Providence Reform School, by a recent act of the legislature, is made available, to the whole state, and has recently commenced operation.

That at Rochester was opened about a year since ; the others are erecting the necessary buildings.

This institution has been much crowded during the whole year ; yet a large number of applications for admission have been necessarily rejected. Great caution has been exercised in receiving none that could be elsewhere properly cared for.

The experience of another year has not led us to make any important change in the general management of the institution. For a more detailed account of our plans of operation, I refer you to my last report. Our government is *firm* and *decisive*, but *persuasive*, *parental*, and social in its character, leading the boys as much as possible, to forget the past, and look forward with hope to the future.

Many have been addicted to the indulgence of ill temper, revenge, &c. ; others have been left in idleness, and under little or no parental restraint. Such must be made to feel the moral wrong of uncontrolled passions, the importance of industry, and the necessity of restraint and self control, before much hope can be entertained of lasting reform.

The lad of confirmed evil habits, needs much sympathy and encouragement, to lead him to put forth the exertion necessary to overcome the force of those habits.

In this work, we are under renewed obligations to George Denny, Esq., for his valuable aid and kind regard for the welfare of the boys under our care. The boys of the first grade, consisting of one hundred and twenty-four, were much gratified by a visit and generous collation at his residence on the Fourth of July ; and, on other like occasions we have been much indebted to his disinterested benevolence.

CAUSES OF CRIME.

There is among children much want of respect towards their superiors ; a want of parental control, and an increase of public places of amusement of low character, doubtless have their influence in increasing juvenile crime.

On this subject, I take the liberty to quote an extract from the correspondence of the late Theodore Lyman, to whose bounty this institution is so largely indebted.

“I have seen enough of the poor and desolate, to be long ago convinced, that many of the persons that go to jails, houses of correction, and state prisons, are originally led there in consequence of the ignorance, or the poverty, or the neglect, or the dissolute habits of parents, or from the want of proper guardians in their youth;—in other words, from being exposed in some way to a temptation, that they had either not knowledge enough, or resolution enough to resist.

“How then shall we diminish crime? The process seems to be, at least a double one. First, to diminish as much as possible in a community, temptation to vice; and, second, to withdraw, as soon as possible, from a course of vice, those that are unable to resist the temptation to it. The first object can only be accomplished by improving the general condition of society, and for the second, we must look, I think, in a considerable degree, to institutions like the school at Westborough.”

The following facts have been gathered, to throw some light upon the causes of crime, as developed in the commitments to the Reform School.

Whole number received, 440.

169 have lost their father.

108 “ “ mother.

138 “ fathers who have no steady employment.

194 “ “ “ are intemperate.

57 “ mothers who are intemperate.

170 “ fathers who use profane language.

45 “ mothers “ “ “

145 “ fathers who were Sabbath-breakers.

71 “ mothers “ “ “

72 “ fathers, mothers, brothers or sisters, who have been,
or are imprisoned.

350 were either idle previous to admission, or had no steady employment.

227 have been over-indulged.

225 “ “ neglected.

367	have been truants from school.
297	“ “ Sabbath-breakers.
394	“ “ addicted to lying.
230	“ used tobacco.
356	“ “ profane language.
259	“ “ obscene “
303	“ attended the theatre and similar places of amusement.
261	“ slept out.
169	“ drank ardent spirits,—most of them to intoxication.
172	“ been previously arrested : 88 once, 33 twice, 16 three times, 10 four times, 25 five times and over.
116	“ been in prisons, or schools of reform.

The above table is based on acknowledgments of the boys themselves; and every effort has been used to make it reliable. Where doubt has existed with regard to any point, it has not been taken into the account; and as it is known from undoubted sources, that full statements were not given in some instances, it is believed that could the whole truth be known, the figures in the table would be augmented.

First, the life into which some have been led, must be attributed to orphanage. Without father or mother, or both, they have been thrown upon the cold mercies of the world, and have fallen. This is not true, however, of a large majority of those who are named in the table, as having lost one or both parents.

A second and prolific source of crime, is parental inefficiency. A large number of fathers, it will be seen, depend upon mere chance for a livelihood. If they obtain any employment, it is well; if not, their families must suffer the consequences. Children, pinched with hunger and cold, are driven into the streets, or dens of vice, to earn a few cents to buy bread, or to beg from door to door. They become acquainted with those who are of their own class or a worse one, the habits and practices named in the table are easily acquired, and a life of crime is begun. Begging and stealing, the consequence of parental neglect, were the chief means of subsistence with not a few before entering this institution.

The same result has been reached through *over-indulgence*. Uncontrolled at *home*, the wholesome restraints of school be-

came *irksome* to them. *Truancy* succeeded. Ranging the streets or fields through the week, created a disrelish for the observance of the Sabbath. Thus, these destructive habits were added to each other until the worst consequences ensued. Boys suffered to spend their evenings in the streets; for awhile, perhaps, engaged in innocent amusement, but among their companions, were found those who were accustomed to vicious practises of which they did not long remain in ignorance; the hour of their return home gradually grew later, as they frequented the theatre and similar places of resort, until finding the parental door locked, through inadvertence or design, and half prompted by inclination to make their bed with their vagrant associates, they spent their nights where chance might place them. The answer of one of the boys, to the question, "How much have you slept out at night?" was, "More or less, for six years;" that of another, "Four or five years, here and there." Others gave replies like the following,— "Most of the time for three years;" "Two years;" "A good many nights;" "Two or three hundred nights." It was found that they sometimes slept in houses of disrepute, where nameless practices had been acquired, and where a love for ardent spirits had been induced, which ended in habitual intoxication;—sometimes in barns and sheds, and upon the wharves, and not unfrequently in the watchhouse.

Parental inefficiency will, in a great measure, account for another item in the table. Boys have spent their time about the streets, idle, or in selling shavings, matches, papers, and obscene prints, or at work in bowling alleys and bar rooms, in most cases, because their parents have permitted it. This practice cannot be too strongly condemned. One boy, when asked his employment, replied that "he had worked at *knick-knacking*;" a somewhat original term, it must be admitted, but which, perhaps, expresses as well as any, the engagements of the three hundred and fifty who were not steadily employed, or mostly idle.

A third, and more revolting source of juvenile crime, is the viciousness of parents. A large number of boys have known their parents to be Sabbath-breakers; have heard them use profane and improper language, and seen them intoxicated. Some are acquainted with the fact that one or both of their parents,

have been imprisoned for crime. But, pernicious as the bad example of a parent is, some have not only indulged in the worst habits and crimes themselves, but taught their children to do the same. Boys stated that their love of strong drink originated in its having been given to them by their parents. Some were sent out to steal, and whipped if they returned unsuccessful.

With these facts before us, it is not surprising that many of the inmates of this institution, have so often been arrested and imprisoned. One boy distinctly remembered having been before courts of justice thirty two times; a fact which a knowledge of the life his parents have led fully explains.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

The school is divided into two departments. The lower department is taught by Mr. M. O. Ayres, assisted by Mr. A. W. Gore; the upper department by Mr. J. C. Meade, assisted by Mr. F. S. Thompson.

The pupils are divided into four classes. The first and second, compose the lower department; each of which is subdivided into four divisions.

The third and fourth classes compose the upper, or more advanced department; each of which is divided as in the lower.

Class first, contains beginners in reading and spelling, and in the first principles of arithmetic, geography and writing.

Class second, includes those who can read easy lessons. Besides reading and spelling, they study arithmetic and geography.

Class third, comprises those who can read in books generally;—who attend to reading, spelling, geography and practical arithmetic.

Class fourth. These are more advanced, and pursue, in addition to the branches of the third class, history of the United States and grammar.

The number now in the school is 323.

Of these spell easy words,	.	.	.	.	10
“ read easy lessons,	.	.	.	.	46
“ “ books generally,	.	.	.	.	185
“ “ well,	.	.	.	.	82

Have studied Arithmetic, 300.

"	"	Colburn's First Lessons,	.	.	100
"	"	through simple rules of practical arithmetic,	.	.	94
"	"	through Reduction,	.	.	26
"	"	" Fractions,	.	.	25
"	"	" Rule of Three, or Proportion,	.	.	23
"	"	" Profit and Loss,	.	.	26
"	"	" Cube Root,	.	.	6
					— 300

Have studied Geography,	.	.	.	229
" " History of U. S. A.	.	.	.	17
" " Grammar,	.	.	.	28

236 can write on paper, and many of them with much neatness and freedom; and the remainder are forming and writing letters on slates.

We believe that a commendable degree of improvement has prevailed among the boys, and a manifest desire to learn. Many who were unable to read when received, can now read with tolerable fluency, and have considerable knowledge of arithmetic, geography and writing. Such facts show the faithfulness of the teachers.

LABOR.

Average employment during the year.

At work in the Shoe Shop,	.	.	.	100
" " Sewing and Knitting Shop,	.	.	.	85
" " Farming and gardening	.	.	.	50
" " Laundry,	.	.	.	22
" " Kitchen, cooking and baking,	.	.	.	21
Scrubbing and general work about the house,	.	.	.	24
Miscellaneous,	.	.	.	7
				— 309

We have experienced much difficulty in providing suitable employment for the boys in the shoe shop, which has rendered the labor of supervision in that department much greater, and with less income, than it would have been with more regular employment.

Many more have labored in the agricultural department in this than in the previous year, and we are confident that labor in the open air does much to secure health, happiness and contentment among the members of our family.

A lad feels much less the restraint thrown around him, while he is engaged in the *open fields* with his companions, and his overseer, or instructor, laboring at his side. He becomes interested in the planting, cultivating and harvesting of the crops, and the various methods adopted by the intelligent agriculturist. Some become much interested in the management of the oxen and horses; others in guiding successfully the plow, or in the care of the poultry yard, or piggery; and often seek with much avidity, knowledge of the best means of conducting those operations.

These things are small, in themselves considered, but when they are taken in connection with his former life, when, instead of feeling pride in some useful employment, he sought his highest glory in the most profane oath, or daring exploits in vice, they become matters of interest as showing the change in his habits.

The introduction of agricultural employment in the management of institutions for the reform of juvenile delinquents, I believe has never been attempted to any great extent until the establishment of this. From our experience here, we are confident that no such institution should be established without liberal provision for *labor in the open fields*.

Many persons have seriously objected to this, for the reason that such boys cannot be controlled and prevented from eloping without extraordinary restraint.

The experiment here for two years past, may do much to remove this objection.

The following statements will show what has been accomplished in the shops the past year:—

SHOE SHOP.

Pairs of Shoes made for the institution,	.	.	730
“ “ repaired, “	.	.	1,184
“ Boots closed,	.	.	1,148
“ Shoes “	.	.	64,230
“ Boot backs stitched,	.	.	4,350

Amount received for shoes sold,	\$831 94
“ “ closing boots and shoes,	2,369 34
“ of work done for institution,	965 93
“ of stock on hand,	93 87

\$4,261 08

Amount of shoes and stock on hand at
commencement of year, \$960 05

Amount expended for stock during the
year, 699 97

Amount expended for tools, 116 37

Wages and board of overseer, 500 00

2,276 39

Balance in favor of shop, \$1,984 69

SEWING AND KNITTING SHOP.

The following statement of the amount of work done in this shop, is gathered from the matron's monthly reports:—

Made 784 Jackets,	Made 27 Bedticks,
“ 1302 pairs Pants,	“ 599 Pillow cases,
“ 456 “ Suspenders,	“ 53 Bed spreads,
“ 508 “ Socks,	“ 140 Towels,
“ 275 Aprons,	“ 34 Pillows,
“ 577 Handkerchiefs,	“ 494 pairs Socks run,
“ 869 Shirts,	“ 71 Vests,
“ 465 Hats bound,	“ 148 Collars,
“ 5 Blankets,	“ 77 pairs Mittens,
“ 654 Sheets,	

Whole number of articles made during the year, 7044

Repaired Jackets,	3006
“ pairs Pants,	4298
“ “ Socks,	4470
“ Shirts,	6426

Whole number repaired during the year, 18,200

FARM.

The Report of the Steward and Farmer, is herewith presented. It should be remarked, that what is termed days' work of

boys, are days of *six hours*, and that many boys are sent *out* to labor more for its effect upon their minds and health, than for the amount of work they accomplish.

To the Superintendent of the State Reform School, the Steward and Farmer respectfully presents his Second Annual Report.

SIR,—Since the last report, there has been performed by the boys who have been employed upon the farm, 14,508½ days' labor, of which 916 have been done on grounds around the institution, not immediately connected with farming operations; 13,592½ days have been in farming and permanent improvements on the farm, 3269 of which are as follows:—In making of roads, 937; in digging round large rocks for blasting, 111; in making walks, 557; in grading around the buildings, 487½; removing gravel from reservoir, 48; covering water-pipe from windmill to house, 146½; conveying water to barn, 193½; digging and filling trench, and drawing stone for 193 rods of wall, 688½; the balance, 10,323½ days, have been occupied in ordinary farming operations, from which has been raised as follows, viz. :—

60 tons English Hay, at	\$12 00,	.	.	\$720 00
21 " Meadow "	6 00,	.	.	126 00
20 " Corn Fodder,	5 00,	.	.	100 00
5 " Oat Straw,	6 00,	.	.	30 00
383 bushels Potatoes,	60,	.	.	229 80
800 " Corn,	75,	.	.	600 00
109 " Oats,	42,	.	.	42 00
953 " Carrots,	25,	.	.	238 25
17 " Rye,	1 00,	.	.	17 00
16 " dry white Beans, 1	75,	.	.	28 00
798 " Swedish Turnips,	20,	.	.	159 50
313 " English "	20,	.	.	62 60
2200 Pumpkins,	02,	.	.	44 00
4329 pounds Pork,	06½,	.	.	281 38
2849 " Beef,	05,	.	.	142 45
205 " Veal,	06,	.	.	12 30
642½ " Butter,	20,	.	.	128 50
564 Cabbages,	04,	.	.	22 56
5182 gallons Milk,	11,	.	.	570 02

353 boxes Strawberries,	\$ 20,	.	.	\$70 60
68 barrels Apples,	1 50,	.	.	102 00
5 bushels Pears,	1 00,	.	.	5 00
2½ " Quinces,	1 50,	.	.	3 75
15 " Peaches,	1 25,	.	.	18 75
43½ cords of Wood,	4 50,	.	.	195 75
Garden Vegetables, Squashes, &c.,	.	.	.	25 00
				<hr/>
				\$3975 21
				<hr/>

The live stock, now on the farm, consists of

4 Oxen,	
1 pair of Steers, 4 years old.	
16 Cows,	
3 Heifers, 3 years old.	
1 " 2 " "	
6 " 1 " "	
2 Steers, 1 " "	
8 Calves, from 5 to 9 months old.	
1 Ayrshire Bull, 5 years old.	
1 North Devon do., 2 years old.	
1 half Ayrshire do., 1 year old.	
3 Horses.	
38 Swine.	
Estimated at	\$1,970 00

Having charged the farm with wages and board of the men employed, as also all other expenses, as they occur from time to time, and credited all the produce which has not been expended on the same, as also all labor performed on such improvements as are not included in usual farming operations, if we deduct all the labor of men and teams which has been done on permanent improvements, a balance will remain, as a compensation for the labor of the boys, (charging no interest on farm) of \$1308 28. The boys, I am happy to say, in my opinion, have much improved in their work, and are more industrious; they appear also to have greatly improved in their general deportment.

All which is humbly submitted.

JAS. LEACH.

Westborough, Nov. 30, 1850.

HEALTH.

The following is the Physician's Report:—

To the Superintendent of the State Reform School.

SIR,—In reviewing the medical history of this institution the past year, the same general facts in relation to disease and its causes have prevailed as heretofore.

The prominent causes of disease in this institution, have been, thus far, mostly atmospherical.

Inflammation of the lungs prevailed during the whole of spring and the latter part of winter, and terminated fatally in three cases. The protracted wet weather of last spring operated very unfavorably with patients during convalescence, in making in-door confinement necessary when the open air and sunlight were most needed. Two of these cases showed indications of consumption in its premonitory stage before the acute attack came on. In the third case, both lungs and the heart's sack, or envelope, were found involved in inflammation when first examined for treatment. This boy died suddenly. The fourth fatal case died of chronic disease of the brain. There were peculiarities in the progress of this case, which a post mortem examination only could have fully developed.

With the exception of two cases of fever, one of typhoid in August, and one of lung fever in September, there has been no disease of much importance since May. The institution has been nearly exempt from the common abdominal disorders of summer and autumn.

Yours respectfully,

H. H. RISING,

Physician of State Reform School.

Westborough, Nov. 30th, 1850.

RELIGIOUS EXERCISES AND SABBATH SCHOOL.

The Report of the Chaplain is herewith submitted :—

*To Wm. R. LINCOLN, Superintendent of the State Reform School,
the Chaplain respectfully submits his Annual Report.*

The duty of giving moral and religious instruction to the youth of our care, was discharged by the late Chaplain, Rev. S. D. P. Stone, to January 11th, when his official connection with this institution was dissolved. For a period of three months following, the general religious exercises were under the more immediate direction of the Superintendent, and the chapel service was conducted by such supplies as were most accessible.

My own connection with the institution began on the 11th of April; a day fresh in my memory, apart from the consideration that it returned our annual State Fast. A few days before, one of the boys had been borne to his final resting place: another died on that day, in the interim of the chapel service, and it was thought that still another was beyond the reach of human aid. So it proved; and it is a matter of profound gratitude to Him in whose hands our lives are, that these deaths, together with but one more, which occurred a few weeks later, are the only instances of mortality with which the institution has been visited since it was first opened; and that the blessing of health has been largely vouchsafed to us.

It has been my endeavor to fulfil the trust committed to me with fidelity; others must determine with what success.

Morning and evening devotions have been observed daily.

Our Sabbath School is in a flourishing and prosperous condition, and is under the efficient superintendence of Mr. M. O. Ayers, one of the principal teachers in the institution. It is divided into twenty-four classes, supplied with teachers mostly, from the religious congregations in the immediate vicinity; and the devotion with which they have prosecuted the good work which they kindly volunteered to perform, is worthy of all praise. Their book of instruction is the Bible; and one lesson is studied by all, with the exception of a few who cannot read. Selections are made from the historical Scriptures of the Old Testa-

ment, which are read in the class, and made the subject of familiar conversation; and portions of the New Testament are committed to memory and recited. Once a quarter, a general exercise takes the place of the ordinary one. The first of the kind occurred on the first Saturday of the present quarter. Transcripts of the class-books, showing the conduct and progress of each scholar, were presented by the teachers of the several classes the week previous. From these a general summary was made, and such facts selected as were deemed of interest, and the whole embodied in a general report, which was read in the presence of the school. It was found that the lessons had been studied with commendable diligence, and that in searching the record of divine truth, both teachers and scholars had partaken of its spirit, and become bound by a mutual tie. The present quarter was commenced with increased interest; and we cannot but believe that this invaluable auxiliary in the reformation of the youth committed to our care, is acting upon their hearts with an irresistible though noiseless power.

Religious worship has been conducted in the chapel "on the Sabbath, and on all other days set apart for religious observance," without interruption. It has consisted of two services; and it cannot be doubted that the regulation which requires the attendance of the officers and all connected with the institution generally, upon this as well as upon the daily devotional exercises, is a most salutary one, when we consider how much these youth are influenced by example. The presence of others, who reside in the immediate vicinity and who have usually attended our chapel service, has also had a tendency to inspire self-respect and a regard for the sacredness of the Sabbath and its engagements. The exercises, however, have been conducted with special reference to the boys. The most practical truths of divine revelation have been selected as themes of discourse, and the effort made to illustrate and enforce them in a familiar and practical manner. The attention with which these exercises have been listened to has been very marked; and although this must be attributed in part to the salutary discipline of the institution, we may indulge the belief that a real interest has generally been felt. Questions have frequently been asked which fully justify such a conviction, and which, could they be detailed here, with the conversation to which they

led, would show that we have abundant cause for encouragement and hope, from the employment of this divinely appointed means for subduing and sanctifying the heart. The instructions of the Sabbath have also been frequently made the topic of conversation among the boys while engaged at their work upon the farm. One, perhaps, mentioned an illustration which interested him; another alluded to an incident which was related; and thus the conversation continued until it became general, and the whole discourse was spread out as a map before them all. Not long since, a diary, belonging to one of the boys, was accidentally met with, and examined for the purpose of ascertaining whether it contained anything which related to the services of the Sabbath. It was found, that while no notice was taken of the transactions of some of the week days, the Sabbath had duly received its entry of the place of the text, —often accompanied by the words, and sometimes by the leading thoughts of the discourse, together with an appropriate remark. On one page, an anecdote, which had been employed as an illustration, was related with such singular fidelity, and its bearing upon the subject stated with such discrimination, as to leave no doubt of a just appreciation of the truth presented. An examination of other diaries was afterwards made with similar results. Additional considerations might be presented, which go to show the existence of that interest, at least, which can only be awakened through the hearing ear. May that gift of heaven, the understanding heart be granted.

I have enjoyed every facility for associating with the boys, and some of my pleasantest hours have been spent in this way. Mingling with them upon the farm, in the workshops and school rooms, or wherever they might be engaged, I have entered into familiar conversation with them upon such topics as the time and circumstances suggested. Apart from this, I have met them all, alone, once, and some of them often, for serious, personal intercourse. Although these interviews have been pleasant at all times, and in all places, I have found the hour and place of retiring peculiarly suited to them. If ever a boy's past life comes up in review, it is when he lies down to sleep. It is then that his *home*, "be it ever so humble," rises in imagination before him. It is then, too, that the slighted councils of a father; the resistless eloquence of a mother's tears over his

waywardness, and the thousand little incidents which have imperceptibly bound him to brothers and sisters, come crowding thick and fast upon his mind; and he half regards himself again at the family fireside, imploring the forgiveness he desires. Perhaps his father, or mother, or both, by their bad example and instruction, have been the cause of his downfall; they may still be dragging out an existence of infamy and wretchedness; or both, together with brothers and sisters, may have long since been chilled by the breath of the destroyer; and he is compelled to say, as some have said, with tearful eye and heaving heart, when interrogated,—“*I have no friends.*” These, and similar thoughts, impress him with all the loneliness of his condition; and he resolves to continue the life of crime he has begun, or nobly retrieve the past, as he is goaded to desperation or melted into penitence. At such a time, “a word fitly spoken,” is emphatically, “like apples of gold in pictures of silver.” Nor are such occasions rare. Indeed, I doubt whether there is a youthful mind in this institution, that is not at times pervaded with thoughts like these I have described. Such are my convictions, from my brief observation and experience. In my interviews with the boys, therefore, I have first of all endeavored to acquaint myself with their history, and the predominant state of their minds and their hearts. I have sought to awaken in them just views of the relation which they sustain to the institution and its guardians and officers, and the true object of their having been placed here, rather than within the forbidding and impassable walls of a prison. I have endeavored to set before them their duty to their friends, to themselves, and to each other;—above all, to impress them with a sense of their obligations to God; and to awaken corresponding emotions of dependance and gratitude; and I am happy to say that I have always been heard with respectful attention, and frequently asked that such interviews might be repeated.

From the facts thus briefly and imperfectly presented, we may confidently trust that the institution is fulfilling, in some degree, the design of our noble Commonwealth in its erection, and the expectations of its early and munificent patron. Looking at the past life of its youthful inmates, the heart sickens and the courage droops. Here, “truth is stranger than fiction.” That many have led lives of crime, in their own language,

"ever since they could remember," and that nearly all have for years been addicted to the habits and vices indicated in the table showing the causes of crime,—sometimes paying the penalty of their offences in jails and prisons, in company with the most abandoned criminals,—sometimes fugitives from justice, in distant cities and towns,—making the earth their bed, and theft their means of subsistence,—is, indeed, almost incredible. Were we unacquainted with the existence of the reality, we might doubt the fidelity of the picture. It is the actual or presumptive knowledge of these facts, probably, which has led to the questions so frequently asked: "Have these boys any moral sensibility?" "Do they possess ordinary intelligence?" "Do you indulge hopes of their thorough reformation?" To those who thus anxiously inquire, "Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?" we may encouragingly answer, "Come and see."

The first of these inquiries has already been answered in part. To the moral and religious instruction given, the attention is generally secured. To the question whether it produces an impression, it may be briefly replied, that the difficulty of effecting the desired change of life consists not so much in producing impressions, as in rendering them permanent. They, who to-day may be melted into tears at the remembrance of their past lives, or because they have committed a fault, and, so far as can be judged, feel that they will never again do wrong, may to-morrow be guilty of a flagrant misdemeanor. When they would do good, evil is present with them. Accustomed to the wrong, the restraints which the right imposes, are regarded with difficulty in the hour of temptation, and hence their fall. They are much like a ship at sea without anchors; secure when the sky is clear and the waters still, but dashed upon the reefs, or plunged into the quicksands, when exposed to the fury of the tempest. Time and labor only, with the blessing of heaven, can produce that moral power which is sufficient to meet every exigency.

With regard to the intelligence of the boys, it may be said, with safety, that they will bear comparison with an equal number in the common walks of life. No obstacle to their reformation arises here, therefore. It is true that many enter the institution very ignorant, but it is because their attendance at school

has been slight. Few of them remain ignorant, and some acquire knowledge as the arid earth drinks in the grateful showers of heaven. An extremely ignorant and unpromising boy was committed about fourteen months since. The unfavorable domestic influences by which he had always been surrounded, and the viciousness of his past life, together with the habitual recklessness both had induced, inspired but faint expectations of his reformation; but he soon applied himself to his books with avidity, is now among the most advanced boys in his English studies, and has been pursuing the study of Latin three months, with a perseverance and success that indicates no common superiority of mind. The ferocity of the lion is changed to the mildness of the lamb. He is a model of diligence and integrity; equally desirous to know and to perform the right for the right's own sake, and is respected and beloved alike by the officers and the boys. His eye moistens, as he often wonders that he has so long cherished such a false estimate of life, and desires to know how the past may be atoned for; and we may breathe the prayer, that the fond hopes which the present inspire may be realized in the future.

The thorough reformation of these youth, then, is not a visionary scheme, which we may desire, but not expect to see realized. There are, indeed, some,—though the thought be a sad one,—whose conduct does not authorize us to expect a harvest from the good seed which we are endeavoring to sow, but for whom we may nevertheless labor in hope. This number, however, is comparatively small. We may believe that by far the larger number, penitent for the past and determined for the future, will be restored to the bosom of society, and cherished with a peculiar care, because once lost, but now found. But such a result can be reached only by well directed and patient effort in their behalf. The extremes of cold distrust and morbid sympathy must be avoided. Just views of their relation to society must be instilled into their minds. The wrong which they have committed must not be palliated. Those whose misfortune it has been to be deprived of proper parental instruction, must be made to know that they have been very wicked as well as very unfortunate. They must be taught to dwell upon the past, only as it shall serve as a warning for the future; and that the future involves their weal or their woe. They must be made to feel that there are no barriers to their respectability

and usefulness as citizens,—if, in the good providence of God, they shall reach the years of manhood,—which they may not overcome; and they must be urged, by every rational consideration, to run the noble race, and realize the glorious destiny of immortal beings. The trust is a fearful one, on whomsoever it may fall. In its successful fulfilment, “the wisdom which cometh from above” will be needed. There must be a heart to feel, and a hand to labor. Great tenderness must be combined with great decision. Perseverance, that intangible but mighty and real existence, to its utmost strength, must be exerted. Happy is the man who can look upon years spent in the successful prosecution of such a work, and fortunate the youth committed to his care. Posterity will rise up to call him blessed, and the memory of his name can never be forgotten.

P. LINCOLN CUSHING.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL,
Westborough, Nov. 30, 1850. }

LIBRARY AND PERIODICALS.

The library has been much increased by the appropriation ordered by your board, and the kindness of benevolent individuals.

We have received books from the following sources, for which we tender our grateful acknowledgments:—

From Geo. Merriam, Esq., of Springfield, three copies of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, twenty-five copies of Robert Dawson, and twenty-five copies of Sloth and Thrift, with a request that one be presented to each boy on leaving the school; public documents from Hon. John Davis, and books for the library from Amos Lawrence, Esq., Mr. Chas. Kendall, Mr. C. P. Pierce, and Mr. Chas. Wait, of Boston, and from friends of the school in Cambridge; one set Parley's Library, from the publishers; also, books and papers from John Ball, Esq., of Salem, and Edward Packard, Esq., of Philadelphia.

We have regularly received the American Traveller, Olive Branch, Puritan Recorder, Youth's Companion, Scholar's Penny Gazette, (while it was published,) Christian Citizen, Massachusetts Spy, Cataract, National Ægis, Lowell American, Cambridge Chronicle, Pennsylvania Journal of Prison Discipline, and Littell's Living Age.

Before closing this report, I desire to renew the expression of my thanks to the Honorable Board of Trustees for their continued kindness, and for the valuable aid they have so freely bestowed.

I should do injustice to my feelings, did I not bear testimony to the faithfulness and self-denial of my associates in the management of the institution, who have so generally sympathized with me, and so faithfully labored for the prosperity of our youthful charge.

I would not close without acknowledging our obligations to Him to whom all praise is due, for the good here achieved, and for all the blessings enjoyed throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. R. LINCOLN, *Superintendent.*

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, }
Westborough, Nov. 30, 1850. }

A P P E N D I X .

Extracts from Letters from Masters, relative to Boys who have been apprenticed.

July 21, 1850.

MR. LINCOLN :

Dear Sir,—By the request of William, I avail myself of this opportunity to pen you a few lines, informing you that he is a very good boy. He attends school regularly ; also, meeting and the Sabbath School.

Respectfully,

N.

November 1, 1850.

Dear Sir,—M. F. has enjoyed good health while he has lived with me. His character has been good, and he has been a good boy. M. has worked on the farm this summer, and will attend school next winter. I like him *very well*, and think he likes his place.

Yours, &c.,

D.

November 11, 1850.

Dear Sir,—It gives me much pleasure to be able to inform you that L. W., apprenticed to me in March last, has given good satisfaction thus far. He is very industrious, and exhibits marks of order and cleanliness which speak well for the Reform School.

He is a pleasant and agreeable boy in the family, and I see nothing why he may not grow up to be a good and useful citizen.

Very respectfully yours,

L.

November 16, 1850.

MR. LINCOLN :

Dear Sir,—I take this opportunity to inform you that John is well, and appears satisfied with his place ; and I take pleasure in saying that I am satisfied with him, and that I think he has received great benefit from you and the institution over which you preside. John says, that if he had not been arrested in his career, he should have been in the State's Prison before this time. I would say, that he has instilled in him the right principles, as regards morals and religion.

Yours with respect,

G.

November 16, 1850.

Dear Sir,—I have just received yours of yesterday. It reminds me of a promise (which was not forgotten) to write you respecting William. He has enjoyed uninterrupted health. He appears to be a still, obedient, and quiet boy. He has, perhaps, less energy than some other boys of his age ; owing, perhaps, in part to his having been employed in sedentary occupation. He has been attending school this week, and will attend three months or more. He has attended meeting and Sabbath School every Sabbath, until the last, when he was detained at home.

Yours respectfully,

A.

November 20, 1850.

Dear Sir,—I think Richard is a smart, capable boy, and bids fair for future usefulness. He has attended meeting and Sabbath School regularly, ever since he has been with me. I think he is quite industrious, and is very fond of reading. He will probably attend the village school about three months in a year.

Yours with respect,

R.

November 18, 1850.

MR. LINCOLN :

Dear Sir,—The health of John has been good ; his conduct very gentlemanly,—all that I could ask or even expect of him.

He will attend school ten weeks. As for his future prospects, I have not seen, nor do I see anything, at present, why they are not promising.

One thing I can say of him, and that is, I have not seen any indications of lying since his stay with me. If he continues as he has commenced, he will deserve much praise.

Most respectfully yours,

H.

This boy had mingled, for a long time, in the most licentious and low company. He was committed for a high offence.

11th month, 28th day, 1850.

Dear Friend,—Agreeably to request, I write to inform you respecting W. M. His health is good. His conduct has generally been good. He has attended meeting regularly since under my care, and expresses a willingness to do so. As regards his future prospects, I think I may say, they are favorable. It is probable he will attend school about ten weeks in the year.

With respect,

W.

November, 1850.

MR. LINCOLN :

Sir,—I write concerning John, the boy apprenticed to me one year ago last October. He is well, continues to be faithful, is becoming in his deportment, and is, in short, a *model boy*.

Yours respectfully,

F.

November, 1850.

MR. LINCOLN :

Dear Sir,—I take this opportunity to inform you that William and Silas, the two boys living with me, are so far doing well. They are very pleasant members of my family, appear interested in all my business, and I have confidence in them, as in all respects trustworthy boys.

Yours respectfully,

B.

Abstracts from Letters from Boys.

September 10, 1850.

Dear Sir,—I now take this opportunity to let you know that I am well and attending school. I have not forgotten the good advice you gave me, for I do not know what I would have done, if I had not been in the institution. If I am now in the road for to make a good man, and be honor to my friends, I am indebted to you, sir.

I am well, and getting along first-rate. Tell the boys that they must employ their time, for I wish I had employed my time better than I did, for education is better than money.

I send my love to all the boys and teachers; tell them that I am in the right road.

From your affectionate scholar,

C.

August 24, 1850.

Dear Sir,—I cannot delay writing to you any longer, to express my sincere thanks to you, and through you to the officers of the institution, for your kindness to me while a member of the S. R. S. It will never be forgotten, and I trust that the means there used for my benefit may prove salutary.

I am pleasantly situated, preparing for future usefulness as a teacher.

Please remember me to all the boys, and urge upon them to pay close attention to the instructions there given, and to strive to do as they shall wish they had done, when they appear before the Judge of all the earth.

Please write, &c.

K.

November 10, 1850.

MR. LINCOLN :

Sir,—I received yours, dated the 29th. It gave me great satisfaction to hear from you. I go on very happily in my business, and my master, seeing my diligence, puts me forward and encourages me in such a manner, that I have great delight in it. Although it has been a great while since I wrote to you, yet I have not forgotten the kindness which I received while in

your care. I feel it my duty to write to you, to thank you for all you have done for me. I was very glad to hear of the good behavior on the part of boys who have been apprenticed lately; that they have raised themselves to the post of *honor*, and set a good example for the rest. The letter which you gave me when I left the school, I have now. I often read its contents. I will always try to follow its contents.

In comparing my present situation with my former life in Boston, I can say, that I enjoy myself far better now than at that time. I have all the privileges I could desire; much more than I expected. I like my place very much.

Yours with much respect,

D.

November 2, 1850.

Dear Sir,—It was with much pleasure I received your kind letter of the 30th. It brought at once to my recollection those never to be forgotten hours, when I have sat and listened to your voice, administering advice and instruction to those around you. In your letter, you requested me to read and preserve the letter of advice which you gave me when I left the institution. I will now tell you that I have often read it, and intend to preserve it as long as I can. To follow its advice I will always endeavor, as I have seen that, without so doing, life is a burden.

I believe I am getting along very well at my work, and hope to continue so. The school here begins in about a week, when I expect to have the privilege of seeing life at a country school.

I remain yours,

M.

November 30, 1850.

My dear Friend,—After having taken my leave of you on one pleasant afternoon in October, and under the care of Mr. G., I went aboard the cars, and, stopping at various stations along the way, arrived at Northampton about 9 o'clock, P. M. It being so late, I could not have a view of that delightful village. I, soon after this, reached my new home. It being rather late, I soon retired to rest. I awoke in the morning, a stranger, but soon became acquainted with the family at my *new home*, and

found them very agreeable. It being the season for the farmer to gather in his crops, I soon began to assist Mr. G. I have been husking corn, digging potatoes, picking up apples, gathering nuts, &c. I spend these long evenings in reading, writing, and the like. I expect to attend school this winter, and have become acquainted with several of the boys that are to become my schoolmates. I often think of the family I left at the Reform School. Give my love to all of them. The farmers in W. often ask Mr. G. if there are any more good boys at the State Reform School.

I think, if it had not been for the Reform School, I might have wandered far in the path of vice, and most certain I should not have found that home I now have got.

Please give my respects to all of the officers.

This from your young friend,

B.

FIFTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE TRUSTEES
OF THE
STATE REFORM SCHOOL,
AT WESTBOROUGH,
TOGETHER WITH
THE ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOSTON:
DUTTON AND WENTWORTH, STATE PRINTERS,
No. 37, Congress Street.
1852.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

R E S O L V E S

For printing the Annual Reports of the State Reform School and the State Prison.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Commonwealth for the time being, be authorized and directed to cause to be printed, annually, before the meeting of the Legislature, or as soon thereafter as may be, three thousand copies of the Annual Report of the State Reform School, and one thousand five hundred copies of the State Prison Report, and that he cause the former to be printed as document number two, and the latter as document number three, of the house of representatives.

Resolved, That one thousand five hundred copies of the Report of the State Reform School be furnished to the Superintendent of the School for the time being, for the use of the institution. [*Approved by the Governor, March 31, 1851.*]

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL,
JANUARY, 1852.

The Trustees of the State Reform School, in discharge of the trust committed to them, would respectfully submit to the Governor and Council their Fifth Annual Report, embracing the condition of that institution for the year ending November 30th, 1851.

The full and ample details in the report of the Superintendent will, as heretofore, furnish the government with all desirable information on the various subjects of which they treat, and will supersede the necessity of any further statements on the part of the Trustees. Such statements, if attempted, would be but a repetition, in most cases, of the facts already so accurately and minutely set forth by him. To his report we will accordingly refer for much of the history and progress of the institution, during the past year.

The following named persons comprise the present list of officers of the institution, viz. :—

Superintendent, William R. Lincoln ; *Assistant Superintendent*, Orville K. Hutchinson ; *Chaplain*, Rev. P. L. Cushing ; *Steward*, James Leach ; *Matron*, Miss C. H. Porter ; *Executive Committee*, George H. Kuhn, Edward B. Bigelow, Daniel H. Forbes ; *Treasurer*, Edward B. Bigelow ; *Secretary*, Thomas A. Greene.

By the report of the Superintendent, it will be seen that the school has been filled to overflowing, during the whole of the past year, and for the greater part of the time with a much

larger number than it could properly accommodate. So urgent became the pressure upon us, that in September last, the Executive Committee of the Board found it necessary again to give notice that, for want of room, no more boys could be received; and we have been obliged, for this reason, to reject nearly all who have since been sent to us. As we are fully apprised that still greater numbers of proper subjects for the discipline of this institution have been sent by the courts to the houses of correction, or left to infest the streets and places of public resort, from a knowledge that they could not be accommodated here, the attention of the Trustees and other officers has naturally been turned to consider the best means of supplying the existing deficiencies. For, if it be admitted, as we think it cannot fail to be, by those who have attentively observed the operations of this school, that the State has been greatly benefited, both morally and economically, by the influence which has been exerted over the five hundred boys who have been admitted to this institution, is it not quite as important that the same influences should be brought to operate upon the other five hundred, more or less, who, though in all respects as suitable subjects for its training, cannot be received until another similar institution, or an enlargement of this, be provided for their accommodation? The result of our inquiries has been the conviction, that this establishment may be enlarged so as to accommodate nearly double the present number of inmates. As we believe this can be done without the corresponding increase in the number of officers, or in the other expenses of sustaining it, which would be required if another separate and independent institution were established, we respectfully invite the attention of the government to a careful consideration of the subject.

The report of the Superintendent shows that an increasing amount of the labor of the boys has been bestowed upon outdoor operations, principally for the cultivation and improvement of the farm. Much of this has been employed in the ordinary labor of cultivation, though no inconsiderable part has been devoted to improvements of a permanent character. It is very satisfactory to find that so large a proportion of their time

can be advantageously devoted to this, the healthiest and best of all human employments, and it is doubly so in the evidence which has been afforded that many of the boys have proved so trustworthy that they could be safely employed abroad, in companies, over all parts of the farm, and sometimes, too, on the neighboring farms and on the public roads. When we first commenced our operations, it was predicted, and by some of those, too, who had had experience in the care of juvenile delinquents, that high walls and close fences would be found indispensable to our success, and that very few, if any, of the boys could be safely trusted to labor in the open fields. We preferred to try, at least, another experiment, and we think the result has proved, that, to trust with some degree of confidence such boys even as these, is the best way to inspire faithfulness, and that, in very few instances, out of the great number in whom we have placed it, has this confidence been abused; while the few escapes that have occurred, (only four out of so many hundred) have been from the number confined within the walls of the building, and not from the boys who have been permitted to go beyond them.

The greater part of the boys who have been placed out as apprentices, have, by their subsequent good conduct and deportment, answered the expectations which had been formed of them, as the letters and documents, published at the close of this report, will, in several cases, abundantly prove. To these documents and the evidence which they afford of the usefulness of this institution, the attention of the government is particularly invited. It is true, there have been a few instances in which boys have been returned by the masters, as proving unworthy and unsuitable to be retained, but they have been so few as to stand only as exceptions to a general good report.

The good health with which we have been almost uniformly favored since the institution was opened, has been indeed remarkable, and should be on our part gratefully acknowledged. At our present annual meeting, there is but one boy ill enough to be an occupant of the hospital, and he is convalescent.

The increasing interest felt by many of the boys in their studies at school, which is noticed by the Superintendent, and

the consequent improvement in this department, during the last year, are gratifying considerations to the Board. Indeed, there is no part of the establishment which we more often visit, or with greater satisfaction, than this. When we reflect upon the previous condition of most of the boys in this particular, and consider how sadly this important part of their training had been neglected, the opportunity which is here afforded, and in many instances so evidently appreciated and improved, it is very pleasant to witness. The interest felt by many of the boys in the Sabbath School, and noticed in the report of the Chaplain, is also very encouraging. And in this connection, we would add our testimony to those of the Superintendent and Chaplain, in acknowledgment of the very valuable assistance received from many citizens of Westborough, of both sexes, in the conducting of this school. Their untiring diligence and perseverance, in the management of the classes which they have so kindly volunteered to instruct, merits our warmest thanks, and will receive, in the approbation of their own bosoms, its amplest reward.

The Treasurer's account shows a small balance, after defraying all the expenses of the year, in favor of the institution. The income of the Lyman Fund has been applied to all such purposes of permanent improvement as, in the opinion of the Trustees, could be properly charged to it, in conformity with the intentions of the benevolent founder. Had it not been for the failure in the labor of the workshop, consequent upon the decline of the shoe business, during the latter part of the season, there would have been a balance of some hundred dollars in the Treasurer's hands, at the close of the year.

To defray the expenses of the institution, for the ensuing year, the Trustees would now ask for an appropriation of \$20,000, viz. :—

For provisions and clothing for three hundred and			
twenty-five boys,	-	-	- \$10,800 00
For salaries, wages, and support of officers,	-		7,000 00
For fuel, lights, and current expenses,	-	-	4,525 00

For workshop, farming tools, and improvements on farm, - - - - -	\$2,700 00
For bringing an additional supply of water to the house, and for warming, by steam, the dining- room and workshops, - - - - -	2,300 00
	<hr/>
	\$27,325 00
Deduct for balance in the hands of the Treasurer, - - - - -	\$14 90
For income of the Lyman Fund, to be applied to some of these purposes, - - - - -	3,500 00
And for estimated proceeds of the labor of the boys, - - - - -	3,810 10
	<hr/>
	\$7,325 00
	<hr/>
	\$20,000 00

The Reform School has now been for three years in, may we not say, successful operation. Has it not, in its healing and restoring influences, accomplished as much as, in so short a time, its reasonable friends could have anticipated, and much more than its doubting and hesitating ones expected? We think it has. In some cases, it may have failed to effect any perceptible improvement. This was surely to be expected. In others, the improvement may have been less marked, or more slow and doubtful in its progress, than the guardians and friends of the institution could have wished. But in another class of cases, and we rejoice in believing that this class is not a small one, evidences of radical and thorough reformation have been afforded not to be mistaken, such as we believe will bear the test of time, bringing no relapse to dishearten or disappoint us. And how many such cases as these will be required to repay the Commonwealth for all its expenditure,—to reward the friends and benefactors of this school for all the care and toil and anxiety bestowed upon it?

And for the good fruits which our vineyard has produced and is producing, let us not forget that we are mainly indebted, under the providence of God, to the skill and industry of the

husbandmen who have digged and dressed it. Our Superintendent is still found to be instant in season in his persevering efforts for its continued prosperity. The Assistant Superintendent labors faithfully and acceptably as his coadjutor, and, in his occasional absences, as his efficient substitute. The Chaplain, who has occupied this station for now nearly two years, has rendered valuable aid, in the mild and gentle, yet judicious and effectual. management of his department. And to all the officers of the institution, principal and subordinate, with scarcely an exception, our thanks are due for their steady and untiring devotion to the discharge of their onerous and responsible duties. With our renewed acknowledgment of gratitude to Heaven for the blessings which have been bestowed upon the efforts of this infant institution, we commend it to the fostering care and protection of the civic fathers of our venerated Commonwealth.

GEORGE H. KUHN,
JOSIAH B. FRENCH,
RUSSELL A. GIBBS,
SAMUEL WILLISTON,
THOMAS A. GREENE,
EDWARD B. BIGELOW,
DANIEL H. FORBES.

WESTBOROUGH, December 5th, 1851.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents the FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Treasurer charges himself from December 1st, 1850, to November 30th, 1851, inclusive, as follows :

For amounts received from the State treasury, .	\$22,500 00
For amounts received from W. R. Lincoln, Superintendent, being the amounts received for work, &c.,	4,639 37
For amounts received from Lyman Fund, .	4,100 00
	<hr/>
	\$31,239 37
	<hr/>

He credits himself with balance, November 30th, 1850, \$4,793 38

And for the following payments :

Hospital expense,	20 27
Tools, leather and materials for shoe-shop, .	1,373 66
General improvements and repairs, . .	1,477 83
Salaries, wages and labor,	6,588 24
Farming tools, stock and improvements on farm, .	1,681 88
Fuel and lights,	1,162 68
Provisions and groceries,	8,659 71
Books, stationery and printing,	282 14
Furniture and bedding,	1,049 26
Clothing, &c.,	2,790 82
Trustees' expenses,	223 04
Transportation and railroad freight,	225 07

Postage,	\$38 00
Interest paid former Treasurer, on money advanced,	262 00
Miscellaneous,	596 49
Balance carried to new account,	14 90
	<hr/>
	\$31,239 37

Tools, Leather and Materials for Shoe Shop, include

Leather, 2,630 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet,	\$287 61
Do. 2,705 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	436 04
Binding and lining,	19 59
Pegs, tax, wax, &c.,	13 30
Freight,	73 76
Travelling expenses,	6 50
Thread, 689 lbs.,	403 66
Tools,	133 20
	<hr/>
	\$1,373 66

General Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials, on general repairs,	\$1,123 35
Iron work,	27 77
Paints, lime, brushes, &c.,	23 76
Building oven,	90 76
Repairing steam apparatus,	65 25
Carpenter's and blacksmith's tools,	6 73
Locks, keys, door-handles, &c.,	21 99
Glass and glazing,	48 27
Pump, lead pipe, &c,	13 70
Paper hangings,	11 29
Building ice-house,	44 96
	<hr/>
	\$1,477 83

Books, Stationery and Printing, include

School books,	\$165 31
Blank books and printing,	19 79
Slates,	10 63
Writing books, paper, pens, ink, pencils, &c.,	78 91
Binding reports,	7 50
	<hr/>
	\$282 14

Furniture and Bedding, include

Ticking, 601½ yards,	\$66 16
Sheeting, 936½ "	98 06
Diaper, table linen and crash, 246 yards,	34 01
Diaper for spreads, 441¾ yards,	88 35
Blankets,	128 00
Mattresses, pillows, chairs and mirrors,	88 45
Prints and batting,	67 52
Needles and thread, 10 lbs.,	11 43
Straw for beds, 7,000 lbs.,	21 00
Nets, mats and matting,	7 40
Baskets, clotheslines, pails, tubs and other wood- en ware,	43 71
Carpeting, 118¾ yards,	84 15
Knives, forks and spoons,	25 42
Crockery, glass and earthen ware,	69 59
Stoves, funnel and coal hods,	36 24
Brooms and brushes,	43 98
Tin and iron ware,	95 67
Lanterns, lamps, &c.,	40 12
	<hr/>
	\$1,049 26

Clothing includes

Satinets, 2,550¼ yards,	\$1,385 11
Denims, 1,981 "	280 16

Cotton cloth, 4,239 yards,	. . . .	\$298 27
Cotton flannel, 1,278 "	. . . .	108 65
Brown linen, 239 yards,	. . . .	46 00
Tweed, 23 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards, . . . .	. . . .	9 00
Caps, 13 dozen, . . . .	. . . .	36 36
Palmleaf hats and binding,	. . . .	108 12
Thread, 71 lbs., . . . .	. . . .	60 14
Scissors and shears, . . . .	. . . .	15 05
Vesting, 64 yards, . . . .	. . . .	19 27
Frocking, 67 " . . . .	. . . .	29 16
Needles, pins and thimbles,	. . . .	17 38
Buttons, 352 gross, . . . .	. . . .	188 51
Yarn, 207 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs., . . . .	. . . .	149 30
Socks, 4 dozen, . . . .	. . . .	11 50
Handkerchiefs, . . . .	. . . .	3 75
Suspenders, 4 dozen, . . . .	. . . .	3 00
Combs, . . . .	. . . .	15 73
Ribbon, tapes, wax, &c., . . . .	. . . .	6 36
		<hr/>
		\$2,790 82

Provisions and Groceries include

Flour, 726 barrels,	\$3,890 69
Rye meal, 216 bushels,	199 46
Indian meal, 597 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	144 82
Buckwheat, 50 lbs.,	1 50
Beef, 20,987 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	973 17
Pork, 1,958 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	156 41
Mutton, 1,078 "	62 81
Veal, 1,015 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	66 21
Tripe and sausages, 245 lbs.,	23 61
Poultry, 87 lbs.,	10 88
Malt,	6 80
Fish, 9,394 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.,	246 64
Salt, 81 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	32 08
Potatoes, 574 bushels,	401 36

TREASURER'S REPORT.

13

Beans, 58 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels,	\$88 33
Rice, 10,119 lbs.,	355 47
Sugar, 2,832 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	195 88
Coffee, 379 "	53 66
Tea, 78 "	32 45
Chocolate, 700 lbs.,	109 00
Molasses, 3,433 gallons,	675 84
Butter, 1,797 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.,	243 91
Cheese, 128 "	9 99
Lard, 633 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	50 35
Soap, 112 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	7 76
Soapgrease, 201 lbs.,	15 08
Potash, 1,703 "	107 31
Starch, 36 "	2 52
Tapioca, 97 "	8 30
Crackers,	29 31
Eggs, 9 dozen,	2 32
Hops, 64 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.,	11 19
Fruit, &c.,	59 03
Creamtartar, 50 lbs.,	10 25
Ginger, pepper and other small spices,	29 28
Vinegar, 157 $\frac{1}{4}$ gallons,	15 75
Milk, 24 gallons,	2 92
Chloride of lime,	19 31
Miscellaneous,	8 06

 \$8,659 71

Farming Tools, Stock, and Improvements on the Farm, include

Plows, 4; cultivator, 1; shovels, 104; hoes, 60; manure forks, 12; iron rakes, 2; picks, 6; bog hoes, 12; sledges, 2; iron bars, 2; rakes, 60; scythes, 12; snath, 1; straw cutter, 1; grain cradle, 1; hay forks, 6; agricultural boiler, 1; sled, 1; wheelbarrow, 1; chains, 5; yokes, 3, &c.,	\$276 83
Oxen, 4,	250 00
Axes and axe-helves,	20 50

Moving and repairing shed,	\$19 17
Stone posts,	16 00
Cedar "	7 80
Drag-plank,	10 25
Fruit trees, 263,	57 62
Ornamental trees,	7 00
Grain, 163 bushels,	111 23
Grass, garden seeds, &c.,	55 50
Hay, 1 ton,	13 00
Pasturing young cattle,	85 02
Salt, 32 bushels,	9 60
Plaster, 20,000 lbs.,	58 50
Labor, laying wall, blasting rocks, and butch- ering,	416 83
Blacksmith work,	113 70
Milk cans, pans, &c.,	2 98
Strawberry boxes, 576; flower pots, 182,	30 24
Bags,	5 06
Repairing carts, wagons and tools,	42 24
Whips, repairing harnesses, &c.,	17 86
Twine,	6 63
Corn and potatoes to plant,	37 70
Miscellaneous,	10 62
	<hr/>
	\$1,681 88

Fuel and Lights include

Coal, 160 tons,	940 57
Oil, 318 gallons,	200 34
Charcoal, 140 bushels,	14 00
Lamp wicks and wicking,	7 77
	<hr/>
	\$1,162 68

Miscellaneous includes

Expenses of pursuing and returning elopers,	\$27 25
Travelling expenses on business for institution,	51 72

TREASURER'S REPORT.

15

Expenses of returning boys to friends and fitting them out to sea,	\$37 09
Ropes and pulleys,	8 57
Advertising,	2 00
Wrapping paper, twine and badges,	59 10
Geographical lectures,	10 50
Wagon and carryall,	185 00
Conveying Sabbath School Teachers to institution,	165 50
Conveyance of Governor and Council and Legislative Committee,	12 00
Coffins and expenses of funerals,	15 75
Sundries,	22 01
	<hr/>
	\$596 49

EDWARD B. BIGELOW,

*Treasurer S. R. School.*WESTBOROUGH, *November 29th*, 1851.

LYMAN FUND.

November 30th, 1851, amount of the fund, . . .	\$70,000 00
Balance of income in the treasury, reported December 1st, 1850, unappropriated, . . .	850 29
Received dividends and interest, . . .	4,108 50
	<hr/>
	\$4,958 79
Credit amount paid general account, . . .	4,100 00
	<hr/>
Balance of income on hand,	\$858 79

EDWARD B. BIGELOW,

*Treasurer Lyman Fund.*WESTBOROUGH, *November 29th*, 1851.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School.

GENTLEMEN:—Another fiscal year having closed, it becomes my duty, according to your by-laws, to report the present condition of the institution, with the results of our operations as observed in the experience of another year.

The institution has not been long enough in operation to afford *full test* of its usefulness; but we are much encouraged by the results already attained, as exhibited in the favorable accounts from those who have been discharged.

It is believed the school is now accomplishing as much, and the prospects for future usefulness are as great, or greater, than at any former period.

Evidence of this fact is seen in the daily improvement among the boys; many of whom are making rapid advancement, both *morally* and *intellectually*; also in the good "*public opinion*" (if I may use the term) among them, in carrying out the requirements of the rules and regulations adopted for the government of the school.

The following tables are presented as in former reports, to embody many important statistical facts, in a concise and convenient form for general reference:—

TABLE 1.

Showing the number of Admissions and general state of the Institution, from Dec. 1st, 1850, to Nov. 30th, 1851.

Boys in the house at commencement of the year, Dec. 1st, 1850,	324
Committed since, - - - - -	129
Returned—9 by masters, 3 voluntarily, - - - - -	12
Whole number in the house during the year, - - - - -	465
Discharged, - - - - -	155
Remaining, Nov. 30th, 1851, - - - - -	310

The school has at all times been full to overflowing. There has been a greater number of pupils, the institution has been more crowded, and application to commit boys here, has been more pressing than in any previous year since the institution was opened.

The institution has been so full, during a great part of the year, that it has rendered proper classification and discipline more difficult than it would have been with the number which the buildings were designed to accommodate.

We have conveniences furnished for about *three hundred boys*. We commenced the year with three hundred and twenty-four. In the course of the first month, December, 1850, the number was reduced to three hundred and ten, the smallest of the year. In August, it went up to three hundred and forty-two, the largest of the year.

It is believed that if measures had not been taken early in the autumn to check the rapidly increasing numbers, we should now have had over four hundred. Since the sixth of September last, nearly all committed have been rejected for want of room.

There should evidently be some modification in the laws to lessen the number of commitments, or larger accommodations should be provided.

If it should be thought expedient, it is believed that the present building might be so enlarged as to accommodate five hundred, or five hundred and fifty boys, and so arranged, that the whole could be managed with success, without a corresponding increase of expense.

TABLE 2.

Admissions from each County, the past year and previously.

Counties.	1851.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable, - - - -	2	-	2
Bristol, - - - -	19	45	64
Berkshire, - - - -	3	9	12
Dukes, - - - -	1	-	1
Essex, - - - -	21	92	113
Franklin, - - - -	1	1	2
Hampden, - - - -	9	14	23
Hampshire, - - - -	2	3	5
Middlesex, - - - -	30	88	118
Nantucket, - - - -	-	1	1
Norfolk, - - - -	11	25	36
Plymouth, - - - -	1	2	3
Suffolk, - - - -	15	124	139
Worcester, - - - -	14	36	50
	129	440	569

TABLE 3.

Admissions, Discharges, and Average Number for each month in the year.

Months.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Average No.
December, 1850, - - -	5	15	316.5
January, 1851, - - -	19	6	320.5
February, " - - -	8	13	326.5
March, " - - -	11	11	320.2
April, " - - -	20	18	323.1
May, " - - -	9	5	324
June, " - - -	17	15	327.7
July, " - - -	15	13	331.3
August, " - - -	18	14	334.8
September, " - - -	13	25	326.5
October, " - - -	7	11	319
November, " - - -	-	9	314
	129	155	
Yearly average, - - -	-	-	324

TABLE 4.

Disposal of those discharged, from Dec. 1, 1850, to Nov. 30th, 1851, inclusive.

Discharged on expiration of sentence,	-	-	-	-	8
“ by Board of Trustees,	-	-	-	-	40
Rejected and remanded,	-	-	-	-	23
Indented to Boot and Shoemakers,	-	-	-	15	
“ “ Carpenters,	-	-	-	5	
“ “ Cooper,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Silver Platers,	-	-	-	3	
“ “ Sail maker,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Farming and Gardening,	-	-	-	35	
“ “ Cabinet maker,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Blacksmiths,	-	-	-	3	
“ “ Tin and Sheet Iron worker,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Japanner,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Rigger,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Currier,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Stonecutter,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Wheelwright,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Tailors,	-	-	-	2	
“ “ Pump and Block maker,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Sleigh maker,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Harness maker,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Masons,	-	-	-	3	
“ “ Machinist,	-	-	-	1	
“ “ Attend School,	-	-	-	1	
Escaped,	-	-	-	-	80
Died,	-	-	-	-	1
					3
Total,	-	-	-	-	155

The whole number discharged since the school was opened, is two hundred and seventy-three, viz. :—Twenty-seven on expiration of sentence ; sixty by the Board of Trustees, as reformed ; six by order of Court ; forty rejected and remanded ; four escaped ; seven died ; and one hundred and twenty-one indented, as follows :—To farmers and gardeners, fifty-seven ; boot and shoemakers, twenty-five ; carpenters, nine ; silver platers, four ; masons, blacksmiths, and coopers, three each ; trunk makers, sail makers, and tailors, 2 each ; to printer, shoe-shave maker, barber, saw maker, cabinet maker, japanner, tin and sheet iron worker, rigger, currier, stone cutter, wheelwright, pump and block maker, machinist, sleigh maker, and harness maker, one each, and five to attend school.

The sixty discharged by order of Trustees, were mostly returned to parents, who seemed to be suitable persons to take the charge of their children.

TABLE 5.

Showing by what authority committed.

	1851.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas, - -	10	44	54
" Boston Municipal Court, - -	10	49	59
" " Police Court, - - -	2	74	76
" Lawrence Police Court, - -	4	11	15
" Lynn " " - - -	2	11	13
" Lowell " " - - -	3	33	36
" Newburyport " " - -	5	19	24
" New Bedford " " - -	6	28	34
" Pittsfield " " - -	2	3	5
" Salem " " - - -	5	41	46
" Worcester " " - - -	5	10	15
" Taunton " " - - -	3	1	4
" Justices of the Peace, - -	28	102	130
" Trial Justices, - - -	44	14	58
Total, - - - - -	129	440	569

TABLE 6.

Offences of all committed during the year ending November 30th, 1851, and previously.

	1851.	Previously?	Total.
For Larceny, - - - - -	48	160	208
" Stubbornness, - - - -	59	157	216
" Idle and disorderly, - -	6	23	29
" Vagrancy, - - - - -	7	29	36
" Shop-breaking and stealing, -	1	20	21
" House-breaking and stealing, -	3	4	7
" Burglary, - - - - -	-	2	2
" Shop-breaking with intent to steal,	-	5	5
" Pilfering, - - - - -	1	9	10
" Having obscene books and prints for circulation, - - - -	-	2	2
" Common drunkard, - - -	1	2	3
" Malicious mischief, - - -	-	14	14
" Assault, - - - - -	1	3	4
" Trespass, - - - - -	-	4	4
" Arson, - - - - -	-	2	2
" Runaway, - - - - -	1	4	5
" Unknown, - - - - -	1	-	1
Total, - - - - -	129	440	569

TABLE 7.

Showing the length of Sentences, the past year and previously.

	1851.	Previously.	Total.
During their minority, - - -	103	343	446
Until twenty years old, - - -	-	5	5
“ nineteen “ “ - - -	-	1	1
“ eighteen “ “ - - -	1	1	2
“ fourteen “ “ - - -	-	1	1
For one year, - - -	4	18	22
“ one year and six months, - -	-	3	3
“ two years, - - -	6	20	26
“ two years and six months, -	2	-	2
“ three years, - - -	5	24	29
“ four years, - - -	5	4	9
“ four years and eight months, -	-	1	1
“ five years, - - -	2	8	10
“ six years, - - -	1	6	7
“ eight years, - - -	-	3	3
“ ten years, - - -	-	2	2
	129	440	569

TABLE 8.

Showing the length of Alternative Sentences, for the past year and previously.

	1851.	Previously.	Total.
During minority, - - -	1	2	3
For four years, - - -	-	3	3
“ three years, - - -	1	8	9
“ three years and six months, - - -	-	1	1
“ two years, - - -	6	26	32
“ one year and six months, - - -	2	6	8
“ one year, - - -	13	36	49
“ nine months, - - -	1	1	2
“ eight months, - - -	-	3	3
“ six months, - - -	32	114	146
“ five months, - - -	3	1	4
“ four months, - - -	6	12	18
“ three months, - - -	23	65	88
“ two months, - - -	12	102	114
“ one month, - - -	9	22	31
“ ninety days, - - -	2	4	6
“ sixty days, - - -	4	11	15
“ thirty days, - - -	11	16	27
“ ten days, - - -	1	-	1
“ one day, - - -	1	7	8
By fine and cost, - - -	1	-	1
	129	440	569

TABLE 9.

The Nativity of all committed, during the past year and previously.

	1851.	Previously.	Total.	
Born in Ireland, - -	7	49	56	
" " France, - -	-	1	1	
" " England, - -	1	5	6	
" " Scotland, - -	1	3	4	
" " Canada, - -	-	5	5	
" " Nova Scotia, - -	3	3	6	
" " New Brunswick, -	3	11	14	
Foreigners, - -	-	-	-	92
Born in Massachusetts, -	96	291	387	
" " New Hampshire, -	2	17	19	
" " Vermont, - -	4	9	13	
" " Maine, - -	7	17	24	
" " Connecticut, - -	1	7	8	
" " Rhode Island, - -	-	8	8	
" " Pennsylvania, - -	-	3	3	
" " New York, - -	4	9	13	
" " New Jersey, - -	-	1	1	
" " Maryland, - -	-	1	1	
" " United States, - -	-	-	-	477
Total, - - - -	-	-	-	569

Of the five hundred and sixty-nine committed, ninety-two were born in foreign countries, mostly in Ireland.

Of the four hundred and seventy-seven, reported born in the United States, three hundred and thirty-six are of American parentage; one hundred and twenty-nine of Irish parentage; six from English; two each, of French and Scotch; and one each, of German and Danish.

The proportion of those born of American parents, committed during the three years ending with the date of this report, is as follows:—

Committed in 1849— $50\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. were of American parents.

" " 1850— $73\frac{1}{2}$ " " " " " "

" " 1851—71 " " " " " "

Of the whole number, 60 " " " " " "

TABLE 10.

Ages of Boys when committed.

					1851.	Previously.	Total.
7 years of age,	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
8 do. do.	-	-	-	-	1	11	12
9 do. do.	-	-	-	-	7	21	28
10 do. do.	-	-	-	-	18	35	53
11 do. do.	-	-	-	-	13	46	59
12 do. do.	-	-	-	-	18	66	84
13 do. do.	-	-	-	-	21	51	72
14 do. do.	-	-	-	-	21	93	114
15 do. do.	-	-	-	-	27	100	127
16 do. do.	-	-	-	-	1	4	5
17 do. do.	-	-	-	-	1	3	4
18 do. do.	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
19 do. do.	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Unknown,	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Average age about 12 $\frac{2}{3}$ years.					129	440	569

The following facts have been carefully gathered, to throw some light upon the causes of crime as manifested in the commitments to this institution :—

Whole number received, 569.

220 have lost their father.

130 “ “ mother.

193 “ fathers who have no steady employment.

255 “ “ “ are intemperate.

72 “ mothers “ “ “

234 “ fathers who use profane language.

72 “ mothers “ “ “ “

210 “ fathers who are Sabbath-breakers.

109 “ mothers “ “ “ “

102 “ fathers, mothers, brothers or sisters, who have been or are in prisons.

472 were idle previous to admission, or had no steady employment.

307 have been over-indulged.

- 316 have been neglected.
- 493 " " truants from school.
- 378 " " Sabbath-breakers.
- 508 " " addicted to lying.
- 290 " used tobacco.
- 468 " " profane language.
- 325 " " obscene "
- 385 " attended the theatres and similar places of amusement.
- 348 " slept out.
- 261 " drank ardent spirits, most of them to intoxication.
- 202 " been previously arrested;—117 once, 33 twice, 16 three times, 11 four times, 25 five times and over.
- 139 " been in prisons or schools of reform.
- 4, history unknown, who have probably lived a vicious life.

The above table is based upon the voluntary acknowledgments of the boys, together with such information as we have been able to gather from other reliable sources.

We believe, however, that could the whole truth be known, the numbers would be much increased.

In the above, where the habits of parents or boys are alluded to, *habitual* and not *occasional* practices are always to be understood.

As the subject was fully investigated in my report of last year, I deem it unnecessary to enter into it at present, further than to say, that the experience of another year has fully confirmed the views then expressed.

By the preceding tables, it will be seen, that in about three years we have received *five hundred and sixty-nine boys*—an average of nearly one hundred and ninety per annum.

It has been supposed that crime among minors has been more frequent during the last ten years than previously. If so, it shows the importance of efficient action in the existing preventive means to nip it in the bud, before they shall become hardened criminals, to fill our prisons for adults.

The apparent increase can be more than accounted for in the increase of our population from foreign shores.

At least one *third* of the many thousand foreigners, landing at Boston, New York, and other places, are minors; and a very large proportion being ignorant, viciously inclined, and exposed to the many temptations which poverty and roving habits supply, it need not surprise us that this class of offenders should increase.

In the year 1850, about forty thousand emigrants arrived at Boston, and during the first eight months of the present year, one hundred and ninety-three thousand in New York.

If we estimate the proportion of ten juvenile offenders to every one thousand emigrants, we have an increase in this State, of four hundred in one year.

Lord Ashley affirmed in the English House of Commons, "that there were *thirty thousand* naked, filthy, roaming, lawless children, who formed the seed-plot of nineteen-twentieths of the crime which desolates the metropolis."

Such facts should lead us to put forth every reasonable effort to enlarge and improve our existing institutions designed for the correction of criminally disposed youth, for we believe, unless the work is prosecuted with energy, our streets will be filled with crime to a much greater extent than now prevails.

Too much is frequently expected from institutions for the reformation of youthful offenders. It cannot reasonably be expected that they can accomplish, in a few months, what respectable, and even religious parents, find it difficult to do in a series of years. They have their children, through all the precious period of childhood, before the strength of evil habits and associations has blighted their efforts, and yet often fail in securing good habits, and sound moral principle.

I trust that the Reform School will not be condemned for failing to accomplish, in a few months, what is not often effected in well-regulated families,—the *restoration of all* to society, without blemish.

There are many difficulties to overcome in the successful management of a Reform School, not usually understood; among which, I may name the constant change in our family, by the selection of the best members to send out as apprentices, at the time when their good influence is just beginning

to be felt upon others, and supplying their places with the untrained and vicious.

It would require great effort to maintain a high moral standing in any community, if its best citizens were constantly being removed, leaving their places to be supplied by the viler and more degraded.

Another difficulty is felt in the influence brought to bear upon these boys, after they leave the institution.

The *master* may be a moral and religious man, desirous to properly instruct and discipline his apprentice, yet he may have journeymen and laborers employed in the same shop, or on the farm, lodging in the same room with his apprentice, who are continually exerting a very bad influence over him. Instances have occurred where this has had a blighting effect, and has produced very bad results. One or two cases, which have occurred the past year, will serve as an illustration of this. These boys had good masters, but were employed with ignorant foreigners, who cared little for their moral improvement, or, with malicious intention to injure their employers, used their influence to convince them that they could receive more pay, enjoy more privileges, and do much better for themselves, than they would to remain with their masters.

The following is an extract from a letter recently written by an apprentice, from the school, which confirms the facts above stated: "The men who work in the shop with me, are not very good men; they are often talking to me about bad things, but they never do so when my master is there, for they know he would not allow it. When they do so, I think about God, and pay no attention to them, but go on with my work. I told my master, and he said he would talk to them about it."

Another difficulty arises from the influence of evil minded parents, who follow their children, as soon as apprenticed, to induce them to return home, that they may earn a miserable pittance by setting up pins in bowling saloons, or some other equally pernicious employment.

Many other facts might be given; but enough has been said to show some of the evils under which we are laboring.

We have suffered more or less, every year, from two classes

of boys who should never be committed here. First, from those who have too long been in a course of crime, and mingled too much with the abandoned to receive benefit, or be properly governed, without resort to a mode of discipline wholly unsuited to those less advanced in a criminal life. In receiving and retaining such, there is danger of destroying, in a great measure, the good influences of the institution.

Many have been committed here, with fixed habits of lying, stealing, deceit and violence, who were more proper inmates of the State Prison than of the Reform School.

Courts and magistrates should exercise great caution in committing this class of offenders.

Secondly, some are committed who are so nearly idiotic as to render them improper subjects of discipline among boys of the character usually sent to this institution.

Whatever may be the motive for committing such, it is evident they can receive little benefit here.

DISCIPLINE.

We still continue the grade system, believing this to be the most efficient and impartial, producing better results than any other. By this, every one takes the position among his companions to which he is entitled by his daily conduct and character. He has the same motives for improvement that ought to govern him in society.

By this he is taught that when he leaves the institution, the same test must regulate his success in life.

It has been our object to cultivate a "public opinion" among the boys, in favor of good order and a desire for moral and intellectual improvement, and we think we have been generally successful. By this means, our best boys become active assistants in sustaining order and a good degree of decorum among themselves.

The moral and religious education of our youthful charge is an object of prominent importance. We aim, as far as practicable, to make the whole discipline and instruction bear upon the moral and religious nature of each, that he may be induced to act from principle, rather than the uncertain impulse of the

moment. Lying and deception is a very prominent vice among them, before admission, and one that we find very difficult to break up. Many have been taught to deceive by their parents, until it has become almost a confirmed habit, and requires in them a great effort to overcome it.

No important change has been made in the general arrangements of the institution, since my last report.

Four hours of the day are devoted to instruction, six to labor, eight and one half to sleep, and five and one half to moral and religious instruction, recreation, and miscellaneous duties.

LABOR.

The pupils are divided, as far as labor is concerned, into three departments,—farming, mechanical, and domestic.

Farming includes labor on the farm and garden connected with the institution, and on the farms of our neighbors, to some extent, and all other out-door labor about the buildings.

Those at mechanical employments, work at shoemaking and in the tailor's shop, where all the making and repairing of the clothes and bedding of the institution is done.

Domestic employment includes washing, ironing, baking, cooking, scrubbing, and miscellaneous work in the house.

We find no difficulty in employing large numbers of boys on all parts of our farm, with the most perfect security.

While thus employed, no attempt has been made to escape during the year, though we have had, on some occasions, over three hundred at work in the fields at the same time.

From three years' experience, we are confident in the assertion, that no institution designed for the *reformation* of juvenile delinquents should be established, without a liberal provision for out-door and agricultural labor. It tends to promote the health, contentment, and reformation of the pupils. They become more interested in sowing, cultivating and harvesting the crops, than in the more monotonous labors of the shop. It also prepares them to be more useful to farmers, to whom a large proportion are indented.

Average Employment during the year.

Number in the shoe shop,	117
“ sewing and knitting,	85
“ farming and gardening,	59
“ in the laundry,	23
“ in the kitchen—cooking and baking,	16
“ scrubbing and miscellaneous,	24
	<hr/>
	324

SHOE SHOP.

In this department all the boots and shoes used in the institution, are made and repaired by the boys.

They labor principally in closing boots and shoes, for manufacturers in the neighborhood. During the first nine months, all were fully employed; but since about the first of September little labor has been done in this shop, owing to the depression in the business community.

The following will show what has been done in the shoe shop, the past year:—

Pairs of shoes and boots made for institution,	406
“ “ “ “ “ repaired for “	1,047
“ “ boots closed,	32,182
“ “ shoes “	60,855
“ “ boot backs stitched,	6,802
“ “ shoes bound,	1,440

Amount received for shoes sold,	\$195 50
“ “ closing boots and shoes,	3,722 40
“ of work done for institution,	742 10
“ stock on hand,	101 20

\$4,761 20

Amount of stock on hand, at the commencement of the year,	\$93 87
Amount expended for stock, during the year,	1,154 96

Amount expended for tools, and other

expenses,	\$218 70
Wages and board of Overseer,	500 00

\$1,967 53

Balance in favor of the shop, . . . \$2,793 67

TAILOR'S SHOP.

Most of the boys of this department are quite small, and, before admission, unaccustomed to sewing, or even to labor of any kind.

In this shop the boys make and repair all the clothing of the institution.

The following statement of the *very great* amount of work performed in this shop, is gathered from the monthly reports of the Matron in charge of this department:—

Made 686 jackets,	Made 62 bedticks,
“ 936 pairs pants,	“ 497 pillow cases,
“ 655 “ suspenders,	“ 195 towels,
“ 677 “ socks,	“ 70 vests,
“ 203 aprons,	“ 974 flannel shirts,
“ 976 shirts,	“ 117 pairs mittens,
686 hats bound,*	“ 44 comforters,
“ 113 bed spreads,	“ 11 curtains,
“ 31 handkerchiefs,	“ 35 linen sacks,
“ 140 sheets,	“ 3 ironing cloths.

Whole number of articles made during the year, . . 7,111

Repaired 3,091 jackets,	Repaired 238 sheets,
“ 4,125 pairs pants,	“ 45 spreads,
“ 7,510 shirts,	“ 96 aprons,
“ 5,035 pairs socks.	

Whole number repaired during the year, . . . 20,140

LAUNDRY.

Average number of boys in this department, twenty-three.

Number of articles washed, about one hundred and fifty-six thousand.

FARM.

The following statement is gathered from the report of Mr. James Leach, the Steward and Farmer :—

Since the last report, there has been performed by the boys who have been employed upon the farm, 18,152½ days' work, (of six hours) of which, 1,165 have been done on grounds around the institution, not immediately connected with farming operations; 191 on town road; 16,796 days have been in farming and permanent improvements on the farm—2,473 of which are as follows:—in making walks, roads, and grading, 1,820; in digging and filling trench, and drawing stone for, and assisting in laying, 102 rods of wall, 654 days; the balance, 14,323 days, have been occupied in ordinary farming labors, by which have been raised as follows:—

65 tons English hay, . . .	at \$12 00	\$780 00
20 “ meadow “ . . .	6 00	120 00
25 “ corn fodder, . . .	5 00	125 00
1½ “ oat straw, . . .	6 00	9 00
934 bushels potatoes, . . .	60	560 40
684 “ corn, . . .	75	513 00
55 “ oats, . . .	42	23 10
1611 “ carrots, . . .	25	402 75
1410 “ Swedish turnips, . . .	20	282 00
202 “ English “ . . .	20	40 40
99 “ parsnips, . . .	25	24 75
109 “ beets, . . .	25	27 25
116 “ onions, . . .	50	58 00
37¼ “ beans and peas, . . .	1 50	55 87
1376 boxes strawberries, . . .		246 62
80 barrels apples, . . .	1 25	100 00
500 cabbages, . . .	4	20 00
3 bushels pears, . . .	1 00	3 00
5 “ quinces, . . .	50	2 50
20 “ peaches, . . .	1 00	20 00
Garden vegetables, &c., estimated at . . .		25 00
6494 gallons milk, . . .	11	714 34
964¾ pounds butter, . . .	20	192 95

4721 pounds beef,	.	.	5 cts.	\$236 05
3121 " pork,	.	.	7	218 47
1170 " veal,	.	.	6	70 20
65 cords wood,	.	.	4 50	292 50
				<hr/>
				\$5,163 15
				<hr/>

The live stock, now on the farm, consists of

8 oxen,
 2 steers, 2 years old,
 1 Ayrshire bull,
 1 North Devon bull,
 18 cows,
 5 heifers, 2 years old,
 8 " 1 " "
 5 calves, from 6 to 10 months old,
 3 horses,
 51 swine.

Estimated at \$2,519 00

Besides the stock on hand, we have sold swine and other stock, amounting to \$101.

After charging the farm with wages and board of men employed, as also all other expenses as they have occurred, and crediting all the produce which has not been expended on the same, as also all labor on such improvements as are not included in usual farming operations, deducting for labor of men and teams done on permanent improvements, a balance will remain as a compensation for the labor of the boys, (charging no interest on farm,) of \$2,176 79. We have made and used, from barn cellar, reservoir, piggery, and compost heap, 2,011 loads of manure. The crops of this year are much lighter than ordinary, from the extreme dry season.

HEALTH.

With the exception of the first three months of the year, the general state of health has been remarkably good.

For a more particular statement, you are respectfully referred to the accompanying report of the Physician.

“Since my last report, three have died in this institution,—one, each, of disease of the heart, inflammation of the bowels, and consumption. The last mentioned case was one of several that had pulmonary affection, of more or less severity, the first half of the year.

Inflammation, fixed upon the lungs by colds often repeated, has always been the most common disease in this institution which excites apprehension, and when the lungs are preoccupied by tubercles, the most fatal.

In order to obviate all suspected causes injurious to health, as much as possible, measures have been taken to protect the boys from the injurious effects of too great cold and dampness, by adopting a system of clothing which will be a more efficient protection against attacks of disease.

In May, scarlatina appeared in the house, in a mild form. But four, however, were seized with it. Erysipelas followed immediately in the fore part of June, attacking an equal number. In two of these, the disease assumed a very mischievous appearance and threatened a fatal result.

The free and constant ingress of air from without the building, allowed in the apartments of the sick, apparently contributed to prevent the extension of these diseases. Inflammation of the eyes has shown a greater tendency to diffuse itself, than any other disorder, and in a few instances has been tedious in arriving at a permanent cure.

The usual summer complaints have been unimportant, hardly requiring any notice in this report.

There is but one sick in the institution, at this time. He is in the stage of recovery from rheumatic fever.

Yours respectfully,

H. H. RISING,

Physician of S. R. School.

WESTBOROUGH, *November 29th, 1851.*

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

The pupils are divided into four principal classes. The *first* and *second* compose the lower department, each of which is subdivided into four divisions.

The *third* and *fourth* classes compose the upper or more advanced department, each of which is divided into three divisions.

Class *first* contains beginners in reading, spelling, and in the first principles of arithmetic, geography, and writing.

Class *second* includes those who can read easy lessons. Besides reading and spelling, they study arithmetic, geography, and writing.

Class *third* comprises those who can read in books generally. They attend to reading, writing, spelling, geography, practical arithmetic, and some of them to grammar.

The members of class *fourth* are more advanced, and pursue, in addition to the branches of the third class, history of the United States.

The pupils have manifested a greater degree of interest in their studies, and have made more advancement, than during any previous year.

It will be seen by the following tables, that nearly all received during the year, have entered the lower classes, while a great proportion of those discharged, were from the higher classes.

Those committed, during the year, have entered each class as follows:—

	1st Division.	2d Division.	3d Division.	4th Division.	Total.
Entered Class No. 1, - -	28	39	10	10	87
" " " 2, - -	10	5	1	3	19
" " " 3, - -	11	4	2	-	17
" " " 4, - -	2	4	-	-	6

Those discharged during the year were from the following classes:—

	1st Division.	2d Division.	3d Division.	4th Division.	Total.
Discharged from Class No. 1,	1	6	7	3	17
" " " " 2,	4	9	4	12	29
" " " " 3,	8	11	15	-	34
" " " " 4,	24	13	25	-	62

The following have been promoted to higher classes :—

	1st Division.	2d Division.	3d Division.	4th Division	Total.
Promoted from Class No. 1,	13	46	53	64	176
“ “ “ “ 2,	58	53	70	67	248
“ “ “ “ 3,	56	51	45	-	152
“ “ “ “ 4,	24	16	-	-	40

Present number in each class :—

	1st Division.	2d Division	3d Division.	4th Division.	Total.
Present number in Class No. 1,	16	23	18	18	75
“ “ “ “ 2,	19	18	24	18	79
“ “ “ “ 3,	32	32	22	-	86
“ “ “ “ 4,	24	24	22	-	70

Present number in school, 310.

Of these, read books generally, with more or less correct-

ness,	.	.	.	.	216
“ “ easy lessons,	.	.	.	.	81
“ “ by syllables,	.	.	.	.	13
					<hr/> 310 <hr/>

Have studied arithmetic,	.	.	.	.	269
“ “ Colburn's First Lessons,	.	.	.	.	71
“ “ through simple rules of practical arithmetic,	.	.	.	.	42
“ “ through Reduction,	.	.	.	.	32
“ “ “ Fractions,	.	.	.	.	78
“ “ “ Rule of Three or Proportion,	.	.	.	.	24
“ “ “ Profit and Loss,	.	.	.	.	12
“ “ “ Cube Root,	.	.	.	.	10
“ “ Geography,	.	.	.	.	216
“ “ History of United States,	.	.	.	.	22
“ “ Grammar,	.	.	.	.	70

280 write on paper, and many of them with a good degree of excellence, and the remainder write on slates.

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION AND SABBATH SCHOOL.

The institution has the valuable labors of a Chaplain, who devotes his whole time to the moral and religious improvement of the boys.

The Sabbath School, under his superintendence, is taught principally by ladies and gentlemen from the congregations in Westborough. We feel much indebted to them for their manifest interest and perseverance. Many of them have not only met their classes at the usual Sabbath School session, but frequently on Sabbath evening, for moral and religious improvement.

For a more particular statement you are respectfully referred to the Report of the Chaplain which is herewith presented.

The Chaplain of the State Reform School respectfully submits his Report for the year ending November 30th, 1851.

It is not his intention to make any statement of the general interests of the institution, or to enter into the details of his observation and experience in his own department; but only to present such results of the labors of the year as embody the tone of moral feeling existing in the numerous and interesting family whose spiritual interests it is made his duty to care for. In an institution like this, where the changes from year to year in its system of discipline and instruction, and in the management of its interests, are few and slight, little can be said in an annual report apart from the statements ordinarily made in such documents. While there is always much to dishearten and discourage a truly benevolent mind, there is also much to cheer and animate. The way is indeed a rough one, though not entirely destitute of objects of interest and sources of pleasure. Relying upon the Divine promises, the dreary waste becomes transformed into the fruitful field, and gracious sunlight shines through frowning clouds. He who grants the succession of harvest to seed time in the natural world, has also taught us to expect a similar return in the cultivation of his moral vineyard. While God giveth the increase, Paul must plant and Apollos water: and that the young are made the special objects of regard and instruction in the record of his truth, may well serve to impress us with a proper estimate of our duty and the spirit in which it should be discharged.

Daily devotions have been observed as usual, and such personal advice and moral and religious instruction given, as the

wants and circumstances of the boys seemed to demand. They are all objects of sympathy and encouragement, as well as of restraint and reproof; and favorable opportunities to appeal to their sense of right are never wanting. Nor is such attention shown them unappreciated. It may not always meet with the cordiality it deserves, at first, but if persevered in, rarely fails to reach the heart. Applications for personal conversation are of almost daily occurrence, and a response to them is never without its reward. These interviews have been numerous the past year, and the value of such effort can hardly be over-estimated. The youthful delinquent, overtaken in crime and thrust into prison, is liable to feel himself forever shut out from the society of the respectable and the virtuous. He is keenly sensible of the wrong he has committed, and, in his conscious degradation, is ready to believe the punishment of his breach of rectitude is to be irretrievably visited upon him. Surrounded, perhaps, by those who are older and more advanced in crime than himself,—it may be by the most desperate and abandoned,—he not unfrequently looks upon these as his future associates, and learns to listen to the boastful rehearsal of their deeds of violence and crime, until moral turpitude loses its deformity, and lays aside its hideousness. The poison instilled into the mind in one short week, under such circumstances, it may require long and patient treatment to remove. He may not resolve on a similar course of life, but the result will prove equally fatal, unless speedily counteracted by some strong opposing influence. Most of those who enter this institution, are found indulging, to a greater or less extent, in these and similar false estimates of their relation to society. They either regard themselves as too far advanced in crime to return to a virtuous and honorable course of life, or doubt their ability to retrace their steps. This view of their condition induces an habitual recklessness and not unfrequently a spirit of antagonism towards those who are placed over them. With them the law is the pliant tool of a system of organized oppression, and anything which partakes of its nature must not be willingly borne. These obstacles lying at the very threshold of reformation must be removed before any real progress

can be made, and counsel, kindly and perseveringly given, will generally be found successful. When we remember how little salutary parental influence has been exerted over these youth, it is not surprising that they sometimes fail to listen to the word of warning and reproof, and turn away without feeling its force and acting upon the suggestions of their better nature. Having been accustomed by turns to harsh language and brutal treatment, and to almost unlimited indulgence or neglect, they are led to expect the same from those who are placed over them, and often become conscious of their error only when they discover the effects of a better discipline in their own conduct, and that of those around them, who have been their former associates in crime. "If I had been taught to lead a different life by my parents," said one in whom a radical change seems to have been effected, "I do not believe I should ever have been so bad a boy." This plain, yet simple and touching declaration would express the irresistible convictions of not a few. It will be seen, therefore, that a firm but generous parental watch-care will do much toward giving a proper direction to the mind; and the work well begun, may be carried forward with increasing ease and pleasure.

The chapel services have been regularly conducted, and there has been a general good attention to the preaching of the word as it has been unfolded from Sabbath to Sabbath. Previous to their admission, few have attended upon the ordinary means of grace with any regularity, and their habitual disregard of the Sabbath and its appropriate engagements has created a distaste for a becoming observance of the day. This is measurably overcome by all, by habitual attendance, and many seem to take pleasure in the exercises. There have been some seasons of special interest, when there were those who seemed sincerely desirous to become transformed in heart and life, and changed their course of conduct from religious motives. Of this class, a few have left the institution from whom the most cheering intelligence has been received. The precise amount of good accomplished by this, or any of the means employed for the moral good of the youth, it is impossible to estimate. Though the results which we anticipate may not be immedi-

ately realized, we may expect at least that the bread which is now being cast upon the waters, will be found after many days.

The method of conducting the exercises of the Sabbath School, indicated in the last report, and which had then been in operation but a single quarter, has been employed throughout the year. The weekly records of the classes have been regularly kept by the teachers, showing the amount of Scripture committed to memory by each scholar, the merit of the several recitations, and the excellence of deportment. The ordinary exercises have been laid aside once a quarter, and the results of its progress made known to the school. These seasons of retrospection have been improved by the teachers and others in offering such remarks as seemed suited to the occasion, and fitted to inspire the scholars with a love of the Sacred Scriptures, and the importance of their diligent study. They have always been of an interesting nature, and have never failed to furnish encouragement for the future; and the fact that each quarter has shown a decided improvement in every respect upon its immediate predecessor, induces the belief that the system is of value. The number of verses of Scripture committed to memory and recited the past year, is 114,870; average to a pupil, about 400.

The merit of the recitations and the excellence of deportment bear a favorable comparison with the results in study indicated above. We are still supplied with teachers from the religious societies in the vicinity, who continue their work of benevolence with a fidelity and devotion equal to its importance. Rarely absent, they win the affections of their pupils by their uniform kindness, and the separation is one of mutual regret, when occasion arises for the dissolution of the relation of teacher and pupil. One of the teachers, who thus found it necessary to dissolve his connection with the school the past year, in consequence of a removal from town, addressed the Chaplain a letter expressive of his interest in his class, and his feelings on leaving. "I have had the pleasure," he said, "of meeting my class every Sabbath except one for more than a year. It has been a duty which I could not shrink from, and

I regret that I must leave those dear boys who have been under my instruction. Their lessons have generally been good, and they have always been attentive and willing to comply with my wishes." The following brief extracts from the quarterly reports of the teachers, furnish cause for encouragement and hope :—

One says, "The deportment of my class has ever been quiet and respectful. Some who, from sickness and other causes, have failed to commit their lessons one Sabbath, have made up the deficiency on the next."

Another, "I can commend my class for good attention, and the increasing pleasure they manifest in the study of Bible history."

Another, "My class has done remarkably well. They seem ambitious to learn perfect lessons."

Another, "The lads are very attentive and respectful. Some of them habitually have good lessons, and their conduct is worthy of the highest praise."

Another, "I think I can see a decided improvement in my class. The lessons are generally more accurately committed than formerly, and they are more quiet and attentive in their general deportment."

Another, "There has been a marked improvement in all my scholars."

Another, "I have had no case of bad conduct, but a general correct deportment, a marked attention to the lesson, and a manifest desire for improvement."

Another, "There has been an increased interest in the class during the quarter. Some appear sincerely desirous of knowing the truth, and are studying the Bible with a teachable spirit."

Another, "I think I can see a decided improvement in my class since the commencement of the school."

It is not to be inferred from these gratifying accounts of the teachers, that the work is unattended by difficulties and discouragements. The ignorance of moral and religious truth, of most of the youth, when committed, is very great. Some have never been taught the first principles of their duty to God

and man, and very few have received any salutary instruction. Under such circumstances there must be much to perplex and dishearten. To the question whether they have attended Sabbath School previous to their admission to the institution, most reply in the affirmative. Of the five hundred and sixty-nine who have been committed since the institution was opened, four hundred and fifty-three said they had been members of Sabbath Schools, and eighty that they had not. With reference to the remaining twenty-six, the facts in the case are unknown. The statements of those who reply in the affirmative, however, must be taken with considerable limitation, if we would arrive at the truth in the matter. Many have attended a few Sabbaths only; some for a considerable time, but so irregularly as to derive but slight benefit from the instruction they received; while the number is very small of those who have been habitually regular in their attendance. Attention has been given to this subject the past year, with the following result:—

Number admitted,	129
Have been regular in their attendance,	9
Irregular,	85
Never attended,	15
Unascertained,	20

These statistics disclose the startling truth, that out of the one hundred and nine, with reference to whom these facts are ascertained, only nine have been regular attendants at Sabbath School; and it is believed that those admitted the past year, will bear a favorable comparison with those received previously. What has been said with reference to the general ignorance of moral obligation, is a strong confirmation of the facts exhibited.

I cannot close this report, without an expression of gratitude to Him in whose hands are the issues of life and death, for the general good health we have enjoyed, and that so few have been removed by death.

To the Superintendent, and other officers of the institution, my thanks are due for favors shown and for their uniform kindness.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. LINCOLN CUSHING.

State Reform School, Nov. 30, 1851.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Hon. George Denny has laid us under renewed obligations for his continued interest in our welfare. His generous collation to over one hundred of our family, on the anniversary of our National Independence, afforded them much happiness.

We also tender our grateful acknowledgments to the following individuals for books and papers. To George Merriam, Esq., of Springfield, who has sent us fifty copies each of Robert Dawson, and Sloth and Thrift, besides many other interesting books. To Hon. John Davis, for valuable public documents. To the publishers of the following journals or periodicals, which have come to hand regularly :—The American Traveller, Olive Branch, Puritan Recorder, Youth's Companion, Massachusetts Spy, Cataract, National Ægis, Lowell American, Cambridge Chronicle, Ohio Teacher, and Pennsylvania Journal of Prison Discipline; and to the publishers, in New York, for the Phrenological Journal, Water Cure Journal, and The Student.

CONCLUSION.

To the Board of Trustees I am under great obligations for their aid in carrying out the designs of the Institution. The duty is more arduous upon them, particularly those in our immediate vicinity, than the public are generally aware. They are so often called upon for advice and direction, that it must be a heavy tax upon their time and patience.

To the Chaplain, Assistant Superintendent, Steward, Matron, and others who have labored with us, we are indebted for most valuable and self-denying service. They have generally entered into the work with much zeal and energy; and with a

cheerful spirit, which has contributed to the happiness of all connected with the Institution.

If zeal in the cause, and devotion to its real interests, will secure future success, relying on Divine aid for a blessing, we pledge our most faithful labors for its continued prosperity.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. R. LINCOLN, *Superintendent.*

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, }
Westborough, Nov. 29, 1851. }

APPENDIX.

Extracts from Letters from Masters, relative to Boys who have been apprenticed.

October 1, 1851.

I improve the present time to inform you that J. and M. have done, and are doing well, thus far. Their health continues good, and they are pretty constant at meeting and the Sabbath School, and I see nothing why their future prospects are not as good as any apprentices I ever had.

October 7, 1851.

D. B. is well; he goes to meeting and Sunday School. His general conduct is good, and he seems willing to do anything he is told, and has made good improvement in his work.

October 8, 1851.

Edward has now lived with me five months; he has been, and now is, all that any reasonable man could expect. He goes to meeting and the Sabbath School constantly and cheerfully. In the family he is kind, always willing to do any little act of service in the house, as well as in the shop. He is neat and clean in his person, kind and generous to the smaller children.

I hope I shall be able, agreeably to your wish in your printed letter to me, to carry out and perfect that reform, which was so evidently begun in the State Reform School.

October 31, 1851.

S. is with us yet, and has proved much better than I expected. He has done very well thus far, and I think he bids fair to be a smart and good man. He is to attend school three or four months. He likes P. quite well; has attended church every Sabbath, since he has been with us, and his health is quite good. I take this opportunity to thank you for sending us so good a boy.

October 14, 1851.

William is in good health; his conduct has been good. He is learning the printer's trade. He is to attend school three months each winter. He attends church and Sabbath School regularly. I have nothing to complain of in him, since he came here.

October 15, 1851.

William's morals, as far as I have seen or heard, are good; he attends church and Sabbath School, every Sabbath. You said he was trusty, and I find him so.

October 13, 1851.

The boy I took from the State Reform School, is well, trusty, and faithful. He has good feelings and a great deal of good nature. He lacks energy, but I think he is improving some. I like him so well, I should like to have you send another, about seventeen.

The following is from the Father of a Boy who was returned to his Parents:—

October 18, 1851.

I feel very thankful to you for the interest you have taken in my son; your kindness to him will never be forgotten by us. He is glad he ever went to the school, for the good instruction he received there will never be forgotten. I think he has seen the evil of his former life, and has learnt that a good name is better than great riches.

October 20, 1851.

The conduct of Matthew has been good. He seems satisfied with his employment, and will attend school three months in a year.

He observes the Sabbath, but does not seem inclined to attend meeting every Sunday.

I think he enjoys himself well, and seems to be contented. His prospects are good to be a well disposed boy, and is respected by all who are acquainted with him.

November 3, 1851.

It is with pleasure that I am enabled to inform you, that Lorenzo enjoys good health, and still remains with me. He seems contented and happy, is an obedient and trusty boy, loves to work on the farm, which he has done most of the present season. He grows very fast; you would hardly know him. He does not learn so fast as some, nor have that desire for books which we should wish. He attended school three months last winter, and will attend three months this. He attends meeting every Sabbath, also the Sabbath School,—says he loves to go. I see nothing why his prospects are not as good as other boys, of becoming a good and respectable man.

November 4, 1851.

I am happy to say my apprentice, W. G., is well and appears contented. His conduct generally, has been very good. He observes the Sabbath, attending church and the Sabbath School regularly, likewise weekly prayer meetings. His associates and habits are good. He will attend school about three months this winter. He is obedient and respectful to me, but on some occasions there has been a want of this towards Mrs. S. Except this, he is a desirable member of my family.

November 4, 1851.

John has been well since he left you, and has done as well as I expected, and a little better. He likes his employment, and is contented here. He at-

tended school six weeks this summer, and I shall send him three months this winter.

November 7, 1851.

I am glad to write, as I have nothing to say but what is in Edward's favor. He is well, and seems to be well suited with his employment. But one Sabbath, I think, has passed that he has not attended meeting and Sabbath School. His improvement in the shop has been very good.

November 9, 1851.

Aaron is working at his trade, and likes very much, and makes great progress. He goes to meeting every Sabbath. I think I can safely say, that the State Reform School has reformed *one* boy. I think his future prospects look bright.

November 10, 1851.

I like Peter very well; he does as well as a boy can,—is industrious and takes hold of his business well. His manners and conduct are good, as far as I have seen, which speaks well for his instructors and the institution. He often speaks of you and the people there. I think, if we live until another summer, I shall let him visit you.

November 12, 1851.

Francis has behaved very well since he has been with us. I like the boy; still he has failings, but I shall do all in my power to remedy the faults in his character. He seems to like his work and seems very happy. He has been to meeting regularly, since he has been here, and attended the Sabbath School. He learns his lessons well; he will commence going to school in December, and go until spring.

November 12, 1851.

Agreeably to request, I write you concerning the boy I took from the State Reform School, last spring. He has done as well as I had reason to expect. I think him a very smart, active boy, and I like him very well. His health is good. He has attended meeting and Sabbath School regularly, and is now going to the common school, and I hope he will have moral courage enough to resist and break away from the bad influences with which he may come in contact, and become a useful member of society.

I regard the institution over which you preside, as one of great importance, which has already been a blessing to many of the rising generation.

A few extracts from Letters received from Boys who have been Indented or Discharged.

May 4, 1851.

Dear Friend:—I take this opportunity to write you a few lines in the way of friendship. I must use that term, for you have ever proved a friend to me. I am always happy to receive advice from you, and will endeavor to follow

your counsel, cherish that integrity, and those principles, and cultivate those virtues which I received from you.

I often think of the State Reform School,—of all the boys there,—how well they might play their part, improve the opportunities they now enjoy,—press forward in all their good undertakings, and come out conquerors in the end—all through their own exertions, with the assistance of the officers connected with that institution.

Should you ever visit us in the Green Mountain State, you would be sure of meeting a hearty welcome from all the members of my master's house. Nothing would please me better, than to take my friend by the arm and stroll up old Ascutney, and see what romance there is in country life.

October 6, 1851.

MR. LINCOLN,

Dear Sir:—I received your letter, and was very glad to hear from you. I have not forgotten old friends in the State Reform School, but I continually think of them, and I was much pleased to hear they were doing so well.

You wish to know how the Shanghae was doing. I can inform you, with pleasure, that they have done first rate. In the spring, we had but one pair, and now we have fifty. They are worth one dollar and a half a pair.

We have raised thirty-eight bushels of barley to the acre, and forty bushels of oats. We have not harvested our corn and potatoes yet, so I cannot tell how many there will be.

I wish you would ask Deacon Leach to be so kind as to tell me how to make a *hot-bed*, and what kind of seeds to put into it. From your Pupil.

The above is inserted to show the interest many of the boys take in the matters relating to their masters' farms.

November 10, 1851.

Dear Sir:—I take my pen, this morning, to write a few lines to you, expressing my sincere thanks to you for the care taken of me, during the time I was at the institution, and the great benefit I received there. I am now in a good place, about a mile from my father's dwelling. Mr. R., my master, is very kind to me. Your ob't serv't.

November 24, 1851.

Dear Friend:—I like my situation very much indeed. My health is good. Please give my love to all the boys. I thank you and all the rest of the officers, for the kindness they have shown to me, when I was in the institution.

Mr. B. is very kind to me, and says I shall make a smart workman: and I mean to stay to my place during my minority. Please write to me when convenient. I remain your most affectionate pupil.

SIXTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

STATE REFORM SCHOOL,

AT WESTBOROUGH,

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOSTON:

WHITE & POTTER, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1853.

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION

119 WEST 4TH STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

1897

1897

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL,
JANUARY, 1853.

The Trustees of the State Reform School, in compliance with the provisions of the Act of April 9th, 1847, by which the school was established, respectfully present to the Governor and Executive Council, their Sixth Annual Report of the condition of that institution—it being for the year ending November 30th, 1852.

They have again the satisfaction of offering as an essential part of their Report, the very ample statistical and other tables, prepared by the Superintendent, and embodied in his report to them. A very full and satisfactory report from the Chaplain, is also herewith presented. To these documents the Trustees would refer, as containing the best information in their power to give, on the various topics of which they treat. And, with this comprehensive reference, they will now proceed to some of those other subjects on which fuller information from them may at this time be reasonably expected.

In March last, the Legislature, in order to provide more ample accommodations for the class of boys who are proper subjects for the remedial influence of the Reform School, made provision for its enlargement, and devolved upon the Trustees the duty of superintending and directing the erection of the buildings that would be required for this purpose. A special meeting of the Board was accordingly held in the month of April, at which several plans for the proposed building, drawn by different architects, were exhibited. A selection was made from these of the one which appeared to be most eligible, and advertisements for proposals from contractors were thereupon

issued. The committee who had the subject in charge proceeded with as much promptness as the circumstances would well permit, and in June the process of construction was commenced. From a report of Edward Lamb, Esq., Superintendent of the work, made at our present meeting, we derive the following information of the progress which has been made, and of the condition of the new building at this time :

“The walls of the building are up—the roof put on and nearly slated—a part of the windows are in, and a small portion of the building plastered. Owing to the lateness of the season, and the liability of the plastering to be injured by the frost, the shrinkage of the timber and the settling of the building, I thought best to defer putting on the remainder of it until the fixtures for warming are introduced. The work has progressed as rapidly as could be expected, considering the time at which it was commenced, the drought and the great demand for workmen at the place where large quantities of the materials are wrought that are used in the construction of the building.”

By the contract, the structure is to be finished and ready to be occupied by the — of July next. We see no good reason why it may not be completed by that time.

Having ascertained that a lot of pasture land, adjoining the farm on the north and containing about twenty-nine acres, could be procured at a reasonable rate, the Trustees, at their quarterly meeting in March last, believing it to be a desirable acquisition, and one much needed for the accommodation of the school, directed that it should be purchased and paid for from the income of the Lyman Fund, and it has been done accordingly.

The windmill, which has been used during the past years for raising water from the pond for the supply of the institution, having, after a fair and patient trial, proved entirely inadequate to that purpose even before the enlargement of the building, its place has been supplied by a suitable steam engine of five-horse power, which is now in successful operation. The cost of this important improvement in our domestic arrangements, small in comparison with the advantages which have been secured by it, will appear in the accounts of the Treasurer.

The school department of their charge is one in which the

Trustees have always felt a deep interest. The children who are sent here, with few exceptions, are of that class whose instruction in the rudiments of school learning has been grossly neglected. Many of them come to us having previously acquired little or nothing in the school-room, except it be a distaste for the very restraints of school itself. There is, therefore, much clearing and breaking up to be done, before the seed that is sown can be expected to germinate. The habits of attention and diligence, without which nothing can be thoroughly learned, are yet to be acquired. And unless due allowance be made for these hindrances in the way of their advancement, our expectations from many of the boys will be raised too high, and thus subjected to disappointment. We have been accustomed to visit the school-room at nearly all of our meetings; but our other engagements have been such that these visits have been often necessarily very brief, and for that reason unsatisfactory. At the quarterly meeting in June, it was determined to set apart one day for the special examination of the schools, and a committee was appointed to attend to that duty. This examination took place on the 19th of August, in the presence of four members of the Board and of several gentlemen and ladies of Westboro' and other towns, who were invited to be present. The substance of the committee's report will be found in the following extracts from it.

"We heard exercises in *reading* and *spelling* from nearly all the scholars of both schools; in *arithmetic* from the greater part of them; in *geography* from several classes, and in *history* from one class of the upper school. Specimens of their proficiency in *writing* were also exhibited by the pupils who had attended to that branch of school instruction, while exercises in *singing* and in *declamation* were frequently interspersed during the day."

"The exercises were generally satisfactory; and when we consider how very deficient many of these boys were in the rudiments of school instruction when they first came here, we feel ourselves warranted in congratulating not only the Board, but the boys and their teachers also, on the good progress they have made. The performances of the class in history, and of some of those in geography, were particularly gratifying in the

promptness and intelligence with which the questions were answered, as well when put by members of the committee as by the teacher who conducted the examination. One half day was devoted to each school, and, at the close of each examination, pertinent and encouraging addresses were made to the boys by several of the Trustees and other gentlemen in attendance."

So well satisfied was the Board with the salutary tendency of this experiment, that it is contemplated to follow it up, semi-annually, or as nearly so as convenience will permit, with other examinations of a similar character.

The uniformly good health of the inmates of this establishment, from the time of its first opening until last autumn, has been cause of much thankfulness on the part of those on whom the management of it has devolved. During that season an epidemic prevailed, of which some account will be found in the accompanying reports. It has now, happily, passed away. But the Trustees have deemed it to be their duty, in consideration of the magnitude of this evil, by special inquiry to ascertain if any improvement in ventilation, any alteration of diet, or any other changes in the general economy of the institution can be made, with a view of preventing the repetition of such a calamity. At this meeting a committee has accordingly been instructed to investigate the whole matter, and make such changes in any of these particulars as may be found expedient. The services of Dr. Rising, so faithfully and skilfully performed during the prevalence of this disorder, only two cases of which have terminated fatally, deserve our grateful acknowledgment.

The resignation of the present Steward and Farmer—Mr. James Leach—has been presented at this meeting of the Board, to take effect on the first of April next. He has been a diligent and faithful officer of the institution, and we regret that it is no longer to have the benefit of his services. Care will be taken, by an early attention to the subject, that a suitable successor be appointed to fill the vacancy.

The view of the premises and buildings, which fronts the title page of this Report, was taken from the eastern side of Chauncey lake, as we approach them from the village of West-

boro'. This sketch was taken at the request of the officers of the institution, by Addison Prentice, of Worcester, and we have great pleasure in exhibiting this specimen of his artistic skill, in connection with the present Report. *

The Treasurer's report shows a balance on closing the accounts for the year of \$410 67 in favor of the institution. To defray the expenses of the ensuing year, we think there will be required the sum of \$30,000, viz. :—

For provisions and clothing for 425 boys, . . .	\$17,000
“ salaries, wages and support of officers, . . .	8,750
“ fuel, lights, and current expenses, . . .	5,800
“ work-shop, farming tools and improvements, . . .	1,500
“ repairs, painting and ventilating, . . .	1,500
	<hr/>
	\$34,550
Deduct for balance in treasury, . . .	\$410 67
Estimated proceeds of labor of boys, . . .	4,139 33
	<hr/>
	4,550
	<hr/>
	\$30,000

To account for the increase of appropriations required beyond that of last year, it must be recollected, not only that the buildings have been greatly enlarged and one hundred additional boys are to be provided for, but that fifty thousand dollars of the principal of the Lyman Fund have been applied to the erection of the new buildings, and that the income of that sum will consequently be no longer at the disposal of the Trustees. The income of this Fund which has already accrued and remains unexpended, it is believed, will be needed to complete the furnishing of the new apartments.

The ink was scarcely dry on our last Report, ere the Hon. GEORGE DENNY, of Westboro', one of the earliest and warmest friends of the State Reform School, was, after a short illness, removed by death from the sphere of his earthly labors. The deep and active interest which he felt in the prosperity of this institution during the four years that he was a member of this Board, and its first Treasurer, and which he continued to manifest by many acts of kind attention after his term of service

had expired, seems to demand at our hands this passing tribute to his memory.

Another year has now added its testimony to the influences which, whether they have been for good or for evil, have been wrought upon the public welfare by the establishment of the Reform School. Can any legislator—can any citizen of the Commonwealth, after having learned the facts stated in the present and in former Reports, doubt for a moment of the character or of the extent of these influences? We desire to claim for it no merit that is undeserved, when we say, that the public voice and the public press have, with remarkable unanimity, answered the question. Many of our sister States, after sending agents here to witness the practical working of our school, have, upon receiving their report, promptly taken measures to establish similar institutions within their borders. Some of these are already in full operation, and others soon will be. Having a strong and abiding faith in their beneficent and far-reaching influences, we should rejoice to see them springing up in every State of the Union, in every civilized nation of the earth.

To the fidelity of the Superintendent, and, generally, of the subordinate officers connected with him, in the discharge of their several duties, we have again to bear our testimony, acknowledging our obligations to them for their hearty coöperation with us in endeavoring to carry the benevolent purposes of the founders of this institution into full effect. And, commending once more to the parental care of the Commonwealth this child of its bounty, we here conclude our Report.

RUSSELL A. GIBBS.
SAMUEL WILLISTON.
THOS. A. GREENE.
EDWD. B. BIGELOW.
DANIEL H. FORBES.
JOSIAH B. FRENCH.
GEORGE H. KUHN.

Westboro', December 10, 1852.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents the Sixth Annual Report.

The Treasurer charges himself, from December 1st, 1851, to November 30th, inclusive, as follows:—

For balance of cash on hand, November 29th, 1851,	\$14 90
For amounts received from the State treasury,	20,000 00
For amounts received of W. R. Lincoln, Superintendent, being the amounts received for work, &c.,	3,072 42
For amounts received from Lyman Fund,	4,400 00
	\$27,487 32

And he credits himself for the following payments:—

Hospital expenses,	\$254 09
Tools, leather, and materials for shoe-shop,	680 75
General improvements and repairs,	1,772 53
Salaries, wages and labor,	7,185 00
Farming tools, stock and improvements on farm,	2,129 24
Fuel and lights,	1,389 08
Provisions and groceries,	7,036 82
Books, stationery, and printing,	380 71
Furniture and bedding,	1,165 03
Clothing,	3,646 83
Trustees' expenses,	260 48
Transportation and railroad freights,	621 10

Postage,	\$34 17
Miscellaneous,	520 82
Balance carried to new account,	410 67
	<hr/>
	\$27,487 32

Tools, Leather, and Materials for Shoe Shop, include

Leather, 2010 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet,	\$293 05
Leather, 1030 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	154 96
Binding and lining,	10 45
Pegs, tacks, wax, &c.,	20 36
Freight and incidental expenses,	21 45
Thread, 245 pounds,	103 00
Tools,	77 48
	<hr/>
	\$680 75

General Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials on general repairs,	\$91 41
Iron work,	60 81
Paints, lime, brushes, &c.,	85 30
Repairing steam apparatus,	18 43
Building carpenter's shop, with a steam engine for forcing water from the pond to the house,	892 65
Building shop to cut leather in,	420 85
Carpenter's and blacksmith's tools,	20 13
Locks, keys, door-handles, &c.,	44 23
Glass and glazing,	49 68
Pumps, lead pipe, &c.,	89 04
	<hr/>
	\$1,772 53

Books, Stationery, and Printing, include

School Books,	\$223 48
Blank books and printing,	52 80
Slates,	10 65

Terrestrial globe,	\$20 00
Writing books, paper, pens, ink, pencils, &c., .	58 78
Binding reports,	15 00
	<hr/>
	\$380 71

Furniture and Bedding, include

Ticking, 1734 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	\$184 73
Sheeting, 1575 yards,	130 93
Diaper, table linen and crash, 356 yards, . .	48 96
Diaper for spreads, 259 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	47 91
Lounge, mattresses, chairs, and mirrors, . .	53 85
Prints and batting,	60 53
Needles,	6 43
Straw for beds, 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons,	97 70
Nets, mats, and matting,	2 00
Clothes-lines, wash-boards, pails, tubs, and other wooden ware,	46 62
Knives, forks, and spoons,	47 66
Crockery, glass and earthen ware,	152 14
Stoves and funnel,	134 09
Brooms and brushes,	23 85
Tin and iron ware,	71 14
Hand bell,	1 50
Lanterns, lamps, chimneys, and shades, . .	45 43
Rubber sheeting,	4 56
Repairing clocks,	5 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,165 03

Clothing includes

Satinets, 4583 yards,	\$2,257 19
Denims, 2389 yards,	265 00
Cotton cloth, 4947 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	372 26
Flannel, 34 yards,	8 18
Brown linen, tweed, &c.,	9 45

Gingham check, 205 yards,	\$20 53
Cambric, 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	9 81
Caps, 240, comforters, 12,	45 00
Palmleaf hats and binding, 744,	107 75
Thread, 111 pounds,	84 94
Scissors and shears,	6 83
Vesting, 36 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	13 78
Frocking, 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	23 18
Needles, pins and thimbles,	23 08
Buttons, 203 $\frac{2}{3}$ gross,	28 73
Yarn, 359 pounds,	221 38
Socks, 20 dozen,	60 58
Suspenders, 13 dozen,	10 33
Combs, 528,	15 93
Crape, tapes, &c.,	16 30
Burlaps, &c.,	46 60
	<hr/>
	\$3,646 83

Provisions and Groceries include

Flour, 654 barrels,	\$3,314 45
Rye meal, 274 bushels,	227 53
Indian meal, 390 bushels,	285 82
Malt, 4 bushels,	6 25
Beef, 21,181 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	1,040 31
Pork, 702 pounds,	62 34
Mutton, 668 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	54 11
Veal, 958 pounds,	65 25
Tripe and sausages, 185 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	19 21
Poultry, 108 pounds,	13 94
Fish, 4599 pounds,	135 73
Salt, 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	14 85
Potatoes, 31 bushels,	24 81
Beans, 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	89 75
Rice, 6,688 pounds,	269 57
Sugar, 1977 pounds,	130 67
Coffee, 276 pounds,	42 10

Tea, 85 pounds,	\$32 44
Chocolate, 650 pounds,	106 25
Molasses, 2825 gallons,	498 27
Butter, 1847 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	300 25
Cheese, 67 pounds,	5 57
Saleratus, 68 pounds,	3 91
Soap, 1346 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	69 47
Potash, 1477 pounds; Soda, 6 pounds,	85 43
Tapioca, 20 pounds; Sago, 75 pounds,	8 33
Crackers,	20 56
Eggs, 46 dozen,	8 08
Hops, 105 pounds,	33 11
Fruit,	32 98
Dried apple and corn starch,	4 46
Cream tartar, 25 pounds,	5 15
Ginger, pepper, and other small spices,	13 22
Indigo, 1 pound,	1 12
Vinegar, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons,	1 43
Bags, 27,	6 52
Miscellaneous,	3 58
	<hr/>
	\$7,036 82

Farming Tools, Stock, and Improvements on the farm, include

Plow, 1; yokes, 3; chains, 2; steel rakes, 3; spades and shovels, 78; picks, 18; hoes, 60; manure forks, 12; trace chains, 6; ice hooks, 1; scythes, 12; snaths, 3; rakes, 60; forks, 8; hay-cutter, 1; chain-pump and chain, 1; wheel-barrows, 4,	\$232 72
Oxen, 4,	255 00
Horse, 1; Swine, 1,	125 51
Axes and axe-helves,	1 50
Drag-plank,	14 25
Measures,	1 12
Grain, 612 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	440 93
Shorts, 1000 pounds,	12 00

Grass and garden seeds,	\$62 10
Oats, 44 bushels,	26 00
Hay, 5955 pounds,	40 78
Pasturing young cattle,	17 25
Salt, 6 bushels,	2 70
Plaster, 20,400 pounds,	62 30
Cement, 8 casks,	12 72
Labor laying wall, blasting rocks, and butchering,	201 90
Blacksmith work,	194 19
Repairing carts, wagons, and tools,	81 59
Horse cart, 1,	45 00
Whips, harnesses, repairing, &c.,	34 44
Twine, $7\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	1 85
Guano, 2114 pounds,	55 49
Oil of vitriol, 1 carboy,	6 08
Baskets, 24,	7 25
Hay-scale, 1,	175 00
Freight on strawberries,	8 56
Miscellaneous,	10 92
	<hr/>
	\$2,129 24

Fuel and Lights include

Coal, $206\frac{7}{10}$ tons, gross,	\$1,131 71
Oil, 305 gallons,	225 85
Charcoal, 230 bushels,	29 60
Lampwicks and wicking,	1 92
	<hr/>
	\$1,389 08

Miscellaneous includes

Expenses of pursuing and returning elopers,	\$37 80
Expenses in returning boys to friends, and fitting them out to sea,	44 82
Travelling expenses on business for institution,	36 69
Visiting apprentices,	31 90

Derrick and ropes,	\$86 06
Advertising,	7 50
Conveying Sabbath school teachers to institution,	150 00
Conveyance of legislative committee, . . .	6 00
Coffins and expenses of funerals, . . .	36 00
Thermometers, 15,	8 37
Cotton duck, 50½ yards,	12 63
Painting and new covering wagons, . . .	16 51
Skates, 24 pairs,	10 08
Sundries,	36 46
	<hr/>
	\$520 82

EDWARD B. BIGELOW,

Treasurer S. R. School.

WESTBOROUGH, November 30th, 1852.

LYMAN FUND.

Amount of the Fund November 29th, 1851, as per last report,	\$70,000 00
Paid on account of the addition of the buildings authorized by a resolve of the legislature, passed in March, 1852,	21,686 06
	<hr/>
Leaving present amount of the Fund, . . .	\$48,313 94

Income of the Fund.

Balance of income on hand 29th November, 1851,	\$858 79
Received dividends and interest,	3,763 36
Received premium on Northern rail-road bonds, sold, \$2,321 58	
Deduct loss on bank stock, 175 00	
	<hr/>
	2,146 58
	<hr/>
	\$6,768 73

Paid for a lot of land, $28\frac{3}{4}$ acres, purchased of Silas Sibley, by order of Trustees,	\$421 25	
Paid for recording deed,	40	
Paid to general account,	4,400 00	
	<hr/>	4,821 65
Balance of income on hand,		<hr/> \$1,947 08

EDWARD B. BIGELOW,

Treasurer Lyman Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, November 30th, 1852.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School.

GENTLEMEN :—The following statement of the affairs of the Reform School, is respectfully presented :—

TABLE 1.

Showing the number admitted, and the general state of the School, from Dec. 1st, 1851, to Nov. 30th, 1852, inclusive.

Boys in the School at the commencement of the year, Dec. 1st, 1851,	310
Committed since,	155
Returned—5 by masters, 4 voluntarily,	9
Whole number in the School during the year,	474
Discharged,	133
Remainining at date, Nov. 30th, 1852,	341

TABLE 2.

Admissions from each County, the past year and previously.

Counties.	1852.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable,	—	2	2
Bristol,	8	64	72
Berkshire,	11	12	23
Dukes,	—	1	1
Essex,	30	113	143
Franklin,	1	2	3
Hampden,	3	23	26
Hampshire,	1	5	6
Middlesex,	28	118	146
Nantucket,	—	1	1
Norfolk,	2	36	38
Plymouth,	2	3	5
Suffolk,	37	139	176
Worcester,	32	50	82
	155	569	724

TABLE 3.

Admissions, Discharges, and Average Number, for each month in the year.

Months.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Average No.
December, 1851,	3	7	307.
January, 1852,	5	3	306.8
February, "	4	8	308.3
March, "	15	18	303.
April, "	13	16	301.6
May, "	19	10	311.8
June, "	23	16	320.
July, "	13	7	323.8
August, "	13	7	331.1
Sept., "	17	18	330.4
October, "	21	13	340.3
November, "	9	10	342.2
	155	133	

The average number through the year, is three hundred and nineteen.

It will be seen by the above table, that in the first three months of the year, an average of only six per month was received, while the remainder of the year averaged about sixteen per month. This was owing to the fact, that during the winter months it was thought prudent by the trustees that the house should not be so crowded as it was in the summer months, and they gave public notice that no more could be received at that time.

TABLE 4.

Disposal of those discharged, from Dec. 1, 1851, to Nov. 30th, 1852, inclusive.

Discharged by Board of Trustees,	39
" on expiration of sentence,	11
Rejected and remanded,	6
Indented to Farmers and Gardeners,	30
" Boot and Shoemakers,	18

Indented to	Carpenters,	3	
"	Bakers,	2	
"	Silver Plater,	1	
"	Cabinet maker,	1	
"	Tin and Sheet Iron worker,	1	
"	Tailor,	1	
"	Machinist,	1	
"	Piano-forte maker,	1	
"	Boat builder,	1	
"	Engraver,	1	
"	Clerk,	1	
"	Painter,	1	
"	Plumber,	1	
"	Mason,	1	
"	Bookbinder,	1	
"	Butcher,	1	
"	Shoe Tool maker,	1	
"	Mahogany Chair maker,	1	
"	Veneer Sawing,	1	
		—	70
Deceased,			7
			<hr/>
Total,			133

The whole number discharged since the school was opened is four hundred and six, viz. :—Thirty-eight on expiration of sentence; ninety-nine by order of the board of trustees, as reformed; six by order of court; forty-six rejected and remanded; fourteen died, and one hundred and ninety-one were indentured, as follows:—To farmers and gardeners, eighty-six; boot and shoemakers, forty-two; carpenters, ten; silver platers, five; masons, four; blacksmiths, coopers, and tailors, three each; trunk makers, sail makers, cabinet makers, tin and sheet iron workers, machinists, and bakers, two each; to painter, shoe shave maker, barber, saw maker, japanner, rigger, currier, stone cutter, wheelwright, pump and block maker, sleigh maker, harness maker, piano-forte maker, boat builder, clerk, engraver, plumber, book binder, shoe tool maker, and veneer sawing, one each.

The ninety-nine discharged by the board of trustees were returned to such parents as seemed to be proper persons to take the charge of their children, and sent to sea, or placed at trades procured for them, without formal indentures.

TABLE 5.

Showing by what authority committed.

	1852.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas,	8	54	62
" Boston Municipal Court,	16	59	75
" " Police Court,	7	76	93
" Lawrence "	10	15	25
" Lynn "	2	13	15
" Fall River "	1	—	1
" Lowell "	7	36	43
" Newburyport "	6	24	30
" New Bedford "	—	34	34
" Pittsfield, "	11	5	16
" Springfield "	2	—	2
" Salem "	8	46	54
" Worcester "	16	15	31
" Taunton "	1	4	5
" Justices of the Peace and Trial Jus- tices,	50	130	238
Total,	155	569	724

TABLE 6.

Offences of all committed during the year ending Nov. 30th, 1852, and previously.

	1852.	Previously.	Total.
For Larceny,	48	208	256
" Stubbornness,	76	217	293
" Idle and disorderly,	4	29	33
" Vagrancy,	7	36	43
" Shop-breaking and stealing,	1	21	22
" House-breaking and stealing,	—	7	7
" Burglary,	—	2	2
" Shop-breaking, with intent to steal,	4	5	9
" Pilfering,	—	10	10
" Having obscene books and prints for circulation,	—	2	2
" Common drunkard,	1	3	4
" Malicious mischief,	4	14	18
" Assault,	1	4	5
" Trespass,	2	4	6
" Arson,	—	2	2
" Runaway,	3	5	8
" Robbery from the person,	1	—	1
" Quarrelling and profanity,	1	—	1
" Assault and battery,	1	—	1
" Forgery,	1	—	1
Total,	155	569	724

The above table shows, that out of one hundred and fifty-five commitments, the past year, seventy-six (nearly one-half) were for stubbornness. In many of them, the real offence is *larceny*; a considerable proportion of them are those who defy all parental authority.

These are the most difficult cases to reform. Having been accustomed to little or no restraint in childhood, they consider all restraint as burdensome, and little can be done for their permanent good until they are taught to respect the authority of others.

TABLE 7.

Showing the length of Sentence, the past year and previously.

	1892.	Previously.	Total.
During their minority,	127	446	573
Until twenty years of age,	—	5	5
“ nineteen “ “	—	1	1
“ eighteen “ “	—	2	2
“ fourteen “ “	—	1	1
For one year,	5	22	27
“ one year and six months,	—	3	3
“ two years,	5	26	31
“ two years and six months,	—	2	2
“ three years,	9	29	38
“ four years,	4	9	13
“ four years and six months,	—	1	1
“ five years,	3	10	13
“ six years,	1	7	8
“ eight years,	1	3	4
“ ten years,	—	2	2
Total,	155	569	724

TABLE 8.

Showing the length of Alternative Sentence, the past year and previously.

	1852.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	5	3	8
For four years,	1	3	4
“ three years,	1	9	10
“ three years and six months,	—	1	1
“ two years and six months,	1	—	1
“ two years,	11	32	43
“ one year and six months,	3	8	11
“ one year and three months,	3	—	3
“ one year,	7	49	56
“ nine months,	1	2	3
“ eight months,	1	3	4
“ six months,	37	146	183
“ five months,	4	4	8
“ four months,	2	18	20
“ three months,	32	88	120
“ two months,	14	114	128
“ one month,	18	31	49
“ ninety days,	1	6	7
“ sixty days,	2	15	17
“ forty days,	1	—	1
“ less than one month,	10	37	47
Total,	155	569	724

TABLE 9.

The Nativity of all committed, during the past year, and previously.

	1852.	Previously.	Total.	
Born in Ireland, . . .	16	56	72	
“ “ France, . . .	—	1	1	
“ “ England, . . .	5	6	11	
“ “ Scotland, . . .	—	4	4	
“ “ Canada, . . .	—	5	5	
“ “ Nova Scotia, . . .	—	6	6	
“ “ New Brunswick, . . .	2	14	16	
Foreigners, . . .	.	.	.	115
Born in Massachusetts, . . .	101	387	488	
“ “ Vermont, . . .	2	13	15	
“ “ New Hampshire, . . .	3	19	22	
“ “ Maine, . . .	8	24	32	
“ “ Connecticut, . . .	3	8	11	
“ “ Rhode Island, . . .	4	8	12	
“ “ Pennsylvania, . . .	—	3	3	
“ “ New York, . . .	5	13	18	
“ “ New Jersey, . . .	1	1	2	
“ “ Maryland, . . .	2	1	3	
“ “ Virginia, . . .	2	—	2	
“ “ Louisiana, . . .	1	—	1	
United States, . . .	.	.	.	609
Total, . . .	.	.	.	724

Of the seven hundred and twenty-four committed, one hundred and fifteen were born in foreign countries, mostly in Ireland.

Of the six hundred and nine reported born in the United States, four hundred and thirty-three are of American parentage, one hundred sixty-one of Irish parentage, seven of English, three of French, two of Scotch, and one each of German, Danish, and Canadian.

TABLE 10.

Ages of Boys when committed.

					1852.	Previously.	Total.
Seven years of age,	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
Eight	"	"	.	.	6	12	18
Nine	"	"	.	.	5	28	33
Ten	"	"	.	.	12	53	65
Eleven	"	"	.	.	22	59	81
Twelve	"	"	.	.	18	84	102
Thirteen	"	"	.	.	35	72	107
Fourteen	"	"	.	.	22	114	136
Fifteen	"	"	.	.	31	127	158
Sixteen	"	"	.	.	1	5	6
Seventeen	"	"	.	.	—	4	4
Nineteen	"	"	.	.	3	6	9
Unknown	"	"	.	.	—	4	4
Total,					155	569	724
Average age, about 12 4-5 years.							

TABLE 11.

Supposed Causes of Crime.

	1852.	Previously.	Total.
Whole number received, 724.			
Have lost their father,	60	220	280
“ “ “ mother,	37	130	167
“ fathers who have no steady employment,	73	193	266
“ fathers who are intemperate,	69	255	324
“ mothers “ “ “	22	72	94
“ fathers who use profane language, .	73	234	307
“ mothers “ “ “	20	72	92
“ fathers who are Sabbath-breakers, .	50	210	260
“ mothers “ “ “	35	169	144
“ fathers, mothers, brothers or sisters, who have been, or are in prisons,	65	162	167
Were idle previous to admission, or who had no steady employment,	45	472	517
Have been over indulged,	74	307	381
“ “ neglected,	125	316	441
“ “ truants from school,	147	493	640
“ “ Sabbath-breakers,	166	378	184
“ “ addicted to lying,	125	508	633
“ used tobacco,	68	290	358
“ “ profane language,	139	468	607
“ “ obscene “ “	96	325	421
“ attended theatres, and similar places of amusement,	98	385	483
“ slept out,	82	348	430
“ drank ardent spirits, most of them to intoxication,	37	361	398
“ been previously arrested — 172, once; 37, twice; 16, three times; 12, four times; 25, five times and over,	60	202	262
“ been in prisons or schools of reform,	36	139	175
History unknown, have probably, lived vicious lives,	1	4	5

The above table is gathered from the voluntary acknowledgment of boys, together with such information as we could procure from other reliable sources.

Where habits of parents or boys are alluded to, *habitual*, and not *occasional* practices are always to be understood.

There are at the present time, thirty-two more boys con-

nected with the school than there were on the 30th of November, 1851, the time of the last report.

It will be readily seen that with a building designed for only three hundred, yet having three hundred and forty-two boys crowded into it, care, discipline, and classification are rendered much more difficult than would have been the case otherwise.

Our present number (though so large) is smaller than it has been for many weeks.

The additional building now being erected promises great advantages; for there will be more room to accommodate and classify. The plan of the new building is such as will enable us to separate the boys into classes according to their character, so as to render the discipline of the institution more effectual.

Notwithstanding the crowded state of the school, and the confusion and annoyance necessarily attendant upon the enlargement, which has been in progress during the past summer, nothing has occurred unfavorable to the general welfare of the institution.

It is with much satisfaction that we are enabled, under all the circumstances, to report no escapes.

About the same number have been discharged and apprenticed as heretofore, and we hope under equally good circumstances.

There are some, after leaving us, who fall back into crime, as we might reasonably expect. In some instances this is caused, in a great measure, by the interference and degrading influence of a certain class of parents. A few facts in the case of one boy, will illustrate the matter.

Last year a lad who had been with us about two years, left the institution in a very interesting state of mind. He had been committed from Boston, and often expressed much unwillingness to return there,—was apprenticed to learn a trade in the country, and during the time he remained there, he sustained an unexceptionable character; but his parents having ascertained where he resided, commenced writing to him, urging his return to the city.

After some eleven months he was induced to visit them in Boston, and they persuaded him to remain, where he was again

under the influence of his former evil associations, and yielded to temptation. We have every reason to believe that had he continued under the quiet influence of more retired life he would have been saved.

Last week we were gratified in receiving a visit from one who was committed to the school in rags and ignorance, having been accustomed to theft and drunkenness with their debasing vices. He remained with us about two years, and became much interested in the subject of religion, and was then apprenticed to a good master in the country.

He brought a letter from his master, giving an excellent account of his conduct. He has united with a Christian church, and is in every respect a young man of much promise.

The same general system of discipline is continued as heretofore.

As I have in former reports fully defined its general principles, I deem it unnecessary to repeat it here. We design to carry out, as far as practicable, the discipline of a well regulated Christian family. A boy committed to such an institution is too apt to regard all around him as "prison keepers," under whose discipline he is placed to punish him for past misdeeds. We regard it as of the utmost importance to remove this impression, and implant in his bosom feelings of sympathy, kindness, hope, and encouragement; hence it is essential that all should deal with him with much discretion and forbearance.

Little can be accomplished towards the permanent reform of a lad until his mind and heart have been enlisted, and he sees there is hope for him in the future.

We continue to place as much confidence in the boys as possible, by allowing them to labor alone and in companies about the farm, to go to the village and neighboring towns unattended by an overseer. These are privileges which are much valued, and we are confident they tend to encourage self-respect and contentment.

LABOR.

The boys rise at five o'clock; attend morning prayers at a quarter before six; from six to seven for breakfast and play;

work from seven to ten, A. M., and from three to six, P. M.; school from ten, A. M. to three, P. M., in two sessions of two hours each, with one hour for dinner and play at noon; from six to seven, P. M. for supper and play; from seven to eight for the hearing and examination of all reports respecting the good or bad conduct of the boys, and the settlement of cases needing discipline which have occurred during the day.

In the spring, autumn, and winter the hours of labor and school are changed to suit the season, but the general arrangement is the same.

AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT.

Number in the shoe shop,	98
“ “ “ tailor’s shop,	90
“ “ farming, gardening, gardening, and other out-door-work,	65
“ “ laundry,	23
“ “ kitchen, cooking and baking,	15
“ “ scrubbing and work about the house,	24
“ “ miscellaneous,	4
	<hr/>
	319

SHOE SHOP.

In this department all the boots and shoes used in the institution are made and repaired by the boys.

The principal employment in this shop has been, closing boots and shoes for manufacturers in the neighborhood. At times of a general depression in business we have not had sufficient work to keep all the boys constantly employed, and in view of the increase in numbers, when the new building shall be ready for occupation, it was thought advisable to make arrangements to employ a part of the boys in some other branch of business.

For this purpose a contract was entered into with Messrs. Gilmore & Cole, of Boston, for the manufacture of light shoes, which has been in operation about a month. It will be a business that will afford constant employment for about a hundred boys.

The income of this shop is much smaller than usual, owing to the fact that all the larger boys were employed a large part of the summer in excavating for the cellar of the new building.

The following is the statement of the work performed in this department:—

Pairs of boots and shoes made for institution,	972
“ “ “ “ “ repaired for “	1,715
“ “ shoes made for contractors,	2,100
“ “ boots closed,	8,832
“ “ shoes “	64,063
“ “ boot backs stitched,	4,164
“ “ shoes bound,	2,216
Amount due for boots closed,	\$83 00
Amount due for shoes sold,	116 58
Amount received, closing boots and shoes,	1,913 76
Amount of work done for institution,	926 20
Amount of stock on hand,	50 00

\$3,089 54

Amount of stock on hand at commence-

ment of the year, . . . \$101 20

Amount expended for stock during the

year, . . . 564 60

Amount expended for tools and other

expenses, . . . 117 15

Wages and board of overseer, . . 450 00

\$1,232 95

Balance in favor of shop, . . . \$1,856 59

TAILOR'S SHOP.

The average number of boys in this shop has been about ninety. They make and repair all the boy's clothing, bedding, &c.

The following statement is gathered from the monthly reports of the matron in charge of this department:—

Made 935 jackets,	Made 288 caps,
“ 1,068 pairs pants,	“ 129 bedticks,

Made 596 pairs suspenders,	Made 1,050 pillow cases,
“ 853 “ socks,	“ 311 towels,
“ 355 aprons,	“ 83 vests,
“ 1,422 shirts,	“ 117 pairs mittens,
“ 812 hats bound,	“ 44 comforters,
“ 17 bed spreads,	“ 4 curtains,
“ 123 handkerchiefs,	“ 11 linen sacks,
“ 537 sheets,	“ 42 frocks.
“ 71 pillows,	

Whole number articles made, 8,955

Repaired 3,094 jackets,	Repaired 383 sheets,
“ 6,024 pairs pants,	“ 100 spreads,
“ 6,653 shirts,	“ 180 aprons,
“ 4,683 pairs socks,	“ 97 bedticks,
	“ 19 frocks.

Whole number repaired during the year, . . . 21,233

FARM.

In the statement of the farming operation is included all the labor performed upon the ground of the new building.

The digging of the cellar, and all the trench walls, together with the digging and drawing nearly all the stones for the walls of the cellar was done by the boys. This has required many boys, and much time, and has saved a large amount to the State, though the income arising from the labor cannot be shown on our books.

The expenses of the farm account have been much increased by this labor, as tools and teams were provided by the farm. To accomplish this labor we were obliged to purchase an additional team of four oxen; this, together with the cost of keeping, has much increased the expenses charged to the farm account. In this connection I take pleasure in expressing my obligations to the steward and farmer (Mr. Leach) and his assistants, for their prompt services in accomplishing, with boys, so great an amount of labor. It is with much regret that we lose the valuable services of Mr. Leach, he having been with us since the first spring after the institution was opened. We

have ever found him a faithful, kind, and obliging co-laborer, in the responsibility of conducting the affairs of the farm. His influence over the boys has been of the purest character, and he has enjoyed their kindest confidence and respect.

The following facts are gathered from the report of Mr. Leach, the steward and farmer :—

“ Since the last report there have been 23,219 days’ labor (of six hours each) of boys, as follows, viz. :—on town road, 2,746 ; on grounds, &c., around the institution, not connected with farming, 1,111 ; on enlargement, 3,719 ; shop cellar, 183 ; steam mill building, 344 ; the balance, 15,117 days, on the farm, 1,552 of which have been in permanent improvements on the farm, as follows : 1,005 days have been performed in making road and grading walks, &c. ; 547 in digging and drawing stone for 75 rods of wall ; the remaining 13,565 days in the ordinary farming operations.

There has been raised the present year, as follows, viz. :—

35 tons English hay,	. . .	at \$20 00	\$700 00
19 “ meadow “	. . .	10 00	190 00
25 “ corn fodder,	. . .	6 00	150 00
6 “ oat straw,	. . .	10 00	60 00
1530 bushels potatoes,	. . .	40	612 00
1125 “ corn,	. . .	90	1,012 50
100 “ oats,	. . .	50	50 00
6 “ beans,	. . .	2 00	12 00
2097 “ carrots,	. . .	25	524 00
1410 “ Swedish turnips,	. . .	20	282 00
18 “ English turnips,	. . .	20	3 60
54 “ beets,	. . .	25	13 50
34 “ parsnips,	. . .	25	8 50
75 “ onions,	. . .	40	30 00
428 cabbages,	. . .	5	21 00
940 boxes strawberries,	. . .		215 26
38 “ raspberries,	. . .		9 50
152 barrels apples	. . .	1 00	152 00
11½ bushels pears,	. . .	1 00	11 50
7½ “ quinces,	. . .	50	3 75

Vegetables used through the season,				\$25 00
5839 gallons milk,	.	.	.	11 642 29
877 pounds butter,	.	.	.	22 192 94
2870 " beef	.	.	.	5 143 50
5306 " pork,	.	.	.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 397 95
1670 " veal,	.	.	.	6 100 20
31 swine sold alive,	.	.	.	163 50
76 cords wood,	.	.	.	\$4 50 315 00
Young cattle sold,	.	.	.	40 00
				<hr/> \$6,082 14

The live stock now on the farm consists of

8 oxen,	
2 steers, 3 years old,	
1 Ayreshire bull, 7 years old,	
1 half " " 2 " "	
1 " " half Durham, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ months old,	
18 cows,	
6 heifers, 3 years old,	
5 " 2 " "	
2 " 6 and 7 months old,	
5 veal calves,	
3 horses,	
59 swine,	
Estimated at	\$2,354 00

After charging the farm with wages and board of men employed, and all other expenses as they daily occur, and crediting all the produce which has not been expended on the same, as also all labor performed on such improvements as are not included in usual farming operations; deducting for labor of men and teams on permanent improvements, a balance will remain for the compensation for the labor of the boys (charging no interest on farm) of \$2,612 50.

We have used during the year 1,860 loads of manure, and have on hand from five to six hundred loads."

The income of the farm has increased every year since the institution was opened, as will be seen from the following

statement condensed from the annual reports for the four last years :—

The estimated value of the produce of the farm

for the year ending November 30, 1849,	.	\$3,181 04
“ “ “ “ “ “ 1850,	.	3,975 21
“ “ “ “ “ “ 1851,	.	5,163 15
“ “ “ “ “ “ 1852,	.	6,082 14

The income for the present year is nearly double what it was in 1849.

For the year ending November 30, 1850, the in-

come, after deducting all expense, was	.	\$1,308 28
Same for year ending November 30, 1851,	.	2,126 79
“ “ “ “ “ “ 1852,	.	2,612 50

Income doubled in three years.

HEALTH.

The general health of the boys was good until about the middle of August, when a lad was taken sick with the typhoid fever, on the second or third day after he was received. It soon spread to other members of the school, and prevailed with more or less severity for about three months. The number of cases of this disease was sixty-two—two of which died.

Dr. H. H. Rising was very attentive, and ever manifested much kindness, skill, and humanity, in the care and treatment of the sick. He spent much time with them, and was unsparing in his efforts to restore them to health.

The few deaths among so many cases of this fearful disease is sufficient evidence of his skill and ability as a physician, for which he receives our warmest thanks.

Seven deaths have occurred during the year from the following diseases, viz. :—two of consumption, one of lung fever, two of inflammation of the stomach, and two from typhoid fever.

The general health of those now in the school is very good. We are under great obligations to the citizens of Westboro' for their kindness and sympathy for our suffering family during the prevalence of the fever with us, manifested especially in watching with the sick, for which their services were freely offered.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

The boys are divided into four principal classes. The *first* and *second* classes compose the lower department, each of which is subdivided into four divisions.

The *third* and *fourth* classes constitute the upper or more advanced department, each of which is divided into three divisions.

Class *first* contains beginners in reading, spelling, and the first principles of arithmetic, in geography, and in writing.

Class *second* includes those who can read easy lessons. They study practical arithmetic in addition to the studies of class one.

Class *third* comprises those who can read in books generally, and attend to reading, writing, spelling, practical arithmetic, and many of them, to grammar.

Class *fourth* is more advanced, and pursuing the branches of the third class and History of the United States.

Those committed during the year have entered each class as follows:—

	1st Division.	2d Division.	3d Division.	4th Division.	Total.
Entered Class No. 1, . .	48	47	10	9	114
“ “ “ 2, . .	7	4	6	2	19
“ “ “ 3, . .	15	3	6	—	24
“ “ “ 4, . .	4	1	2	—	7

Those discharged during the year, were from the following classes:—

	1st Division.	2d Division.	3d Division.	4th Division.	Total.
Discharged from Class No. 1,	4	3	3	4	14
“ “ “ “ 2,	3	4	8	8	23
“ “ “ “ 3,	4	2	5	—	11
“ “ “ “ 4,	13	20	51	—	84

By the above table it will be seen that 114 were received into the lowest class, and only 14 discharged from that class; and only 7 received into the highest class while the discharges were 84. Fourteen of those now in the highest class entered

the lowest when received, 6 of whom did not know the alphabet.

The following have been promoted to higher classes :—

	1st Division.	2d Division.	3d Division.	4th Division.	Total.
Promoted from Class No. 1,	20	37	60	62	179
“ “ “ “ 2,	64	50	65	72	251
“ “ “ “ 3,	67	62	58	—	187
“ “ “ “ 4,	49	36	—	—	85

Present number in each class :—

	1st Division.	2d Division.	3d Division.	4th Division.	Total.
Present number in Class No. 1,	35	26	25	22	108
“ “ “ “ 2,	19	18	17	17	71
“ “ “ “ 3,	26	28	26	—	80
“ “ “ “ 4,	28	26	29	—	83

Present number in the school, 341.

Of these, read books generally, with more or less correctness, 233

Read easy lessons, 74

“ by syllables, 34

341

Have studied practical arithmetic, 269

“ “ Colburn's First Lessons, 117

“ “ through simple rules of practical arithmetic, 28

“ “ “ Reduction, 54

“ “ “ Fractions, 27

“ “ “ Rule of Three, or Proportion, 18

“ “ “ Profit and Loss, 26

“ “ “ Cube Root, 9

“ “ Geography, 255

“ “ History of United States, 30

“ “ Grammar, 60

“ “ Mental Algebra, 6

286 write on paper, and many of them with a good degree of neatness, and the remainder on slates.

The above tables show that much has been done in the school, which is the best testimonial of the fidelity and success of the teachers.

Our teachers have many discouragements to contend with, which are not applicable to other schools, in the constant change of boys, by sending out the best and most intelligent, and filling their places, in a great measure, by the ignorant and undisciplined. This constant change renders proper classification in the school difficult, for when the school is well classified, in a few weeks the higher classes will have been broken up, so many having left them.

I think the school is in as good condition at the present time as at any period heretofore.

The institution is still highly favored by the valuable labors of the gentlemen and ladies of Westboro' who are connected with the Sabbath school as teachers. Their untiring diligence and success in securing the confidence and love of the boys, shows conclusively what power there is in kindness, judiciously bestowed.

We are under renewed obligations to those friends who have so long sent us valuable books and papers, which have been much sought by the numerous members of our youthful family.

John Ball, Esq., of Salem, who always remembers us with so much kindness, has laid us under renewed obligations by the very acceptable donation of a well selected package of books.

We are indebted to Hon. John Davis for valuable public documents, for which he has our grateful thanks, and to the publishers of the following journals or periodicals, which we have regularly received:—American Traveller, Olive Branch, Youths' Companion, Massachusetts Spy, Cataract, National Ægis, Lowell American, Cambridge Chronicle, Essex County Mercury, Essex County Freeman, Salem Register, Assistant to the Missionary at Large, and Pennsylvania Journal of Prison Discipline; and to the publishers in New York for the Phrenological and Water Cure Journal, and the Student.

In conclusion, the superintendent takes pleasure in expressing his thanks to the board of trustees for the counsel they have uniformly extended to him in the management of the affairs of the institution, and for their co-operation in every matter de-

signed to promote the welfare and reformation of the members of the school.

In this connection he would not fail to speak of the fidelity, kindness, and courtesy, manifested by the assistant superintendent in the discharge of the important duties resting upon him. His efforts in the maintenance of good order and industry, under all circumstances in which he has been called to act, are duly appreciated ; and the chaplain, steward, matron, and all others in any way connected with him in the management of the institution, receive his grateful thanks for the devotion and fidelity manifested by them in their various and often perplexing duties.

With a sincere desire for the permanent good of the school, and pledging to its interest his entire time and effort while connected with it, the superintendent respectfully submits this report.

W. R. LINCOLN, *Superintendent.*

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, }
Westborough, Nov. 30, 1852. }

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees, the Chaplain respectfully submits his Third Annual Report.

The closing year has been one of peculiar pleasure and pain. Sorrows have been mingled with joys, and chastenings with mercies. Never before have we been visited with so extensive and protracted illness, and never before have the remedies employed been more signally blessed in speedy restoration to health. And while God has laid his hand so heavily on so many of our youthful charge, none who ministered to their numerous wants have been taken from their duties by serious illness. We are now rapidly returning to our usual good health, and but few cases have terminated fatally. Seven times have we been summoned to the sad performance of funeral rites, and laid in the narrow house the crushed and withered hopes of parental affection. Some mysteriously sunk and died, with only a few hours' warning; others, as many short weeks sufficed to prostrate and overpower; while others still gradually relinquished the buoyancy of life's sunny spring-time, from lingering and insidious disease. But it must be attributed to the superabounding goodness of God, that these visitations have been no more frequent, when we remember how despairingly we looked upon some, who are now restored to perfect health and the performance of their ordinary duties. Thus, while we remember the past, and weep with those who weep, we may still recognize the bow in the cloud, although its beauties have sometimes seemed scarcely visible, while we say from the heart, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

The usual devotional exercises have been conducted morn-

ing and evening, with the general attendance of all connected with the institution, as heretofore; and have been listened to with appropriate attention on the part of the boys. This daily recognition of the Divine Hand in all the events of life, we may hope, will so accustom their thoughts to recur to the Source of all mercies, at the beginning and close of each day, as that they will not willingly neglect so plain and pleasing a duty, when removed from the fostering influences by which they are here surrounded.

It may be mentioned in this connection, that quite a large number habitually attend devotions, in the privacy of their own dormitories. Their conduct through the day may not have been such as to merit approval. Temptation and passion may have prevailed over conscience and judgment, when lured by evil counsel or bad example. But when at the hour of retiring they find themselves alone with God, the time and the circumstances are such, as are peculiarly fitted to induce reflection. With some, it is the hour when they have been taught to repeat their evening thanksgiving, in their own chambers at home, or have gathered around the family altar. Whether it be the simple petition of infant days, or that which finds words suited to conscious need, the sight of a wayward and impetuous youth, who has refused admonition and despised reproof, on his knees before his Maker, is at once impressive and touching; and furnishes encouragement for renewed efforts in his behalf.

The efficiency of our chapel services and Sabbath school has been somewhat abridged during the past three months, in consequence of our being obliged to surrender the chapel for the proper accommodation of the sick. During this time, the school and recitation-rooms have been used for the exercises of the Sabbath school, and one of the school-rooms has served for a chapel. Under such circumstances, with more than three hundred crowded into a room designed to accommodate only one hundred and fifty, there has unavoidably been much confusion. We are happy to be able to say that this state of things no longer exists, and that these exercises are now conducted, as formerly, in the chapel.

There is reason to believe that the truths of the Gospel have

made lasting impressions on the minds of some, but whether they were such as to result in genuine conversion, eternity alone must reveal. There have been interesting cases of serious inquiry throughout the year. At one time, I met some six or eight, two or three times a week. Some of them still cherish a desire for newness of life. Others soon relinquished their purpose of consecration to God, from influences which they could not find strength to resist. The hindrances which stand opposed to the judgment of a seriously disposed youth, in such an institution as this, are neither few nor small. Here, it is peculiarly true that the good and the bad are mingled together. While there are those who are penitent for the past and desirous to retrieve it in the future, there are also those who have never been made sensible of the insecurity of the ground on which they stand. This latter class, is always, by far, the larger of the two. When, therefore, a boy gives himself up to reflection, and purposes to lay the foundation of his future character in Christian principle, he meets with opposition from those to whom he most naturally turns for assistance and encouragement. His nearest companions and dearest friends endeavor to persuade, it may be to drive him, from the high position he has taken, instead of sympathizing with his feelings and yielding to his counsel. Their opposition is often manifested in ways the most trying; by circulating reports among the boys which have a tendency to make him an object of suspicion, or by taunting him with some unfortunate occurrence in his past life, of which they have knowledge. It may be, he is called by the not very grateful name of "hypocrite;" and the somewhat singular accusation of "forsaking his religion," has sometimes been made. A few have sufficient fortitude to resist the tide of opposing influences thus let loose upon them; but most regard the obstacles as too great to be surmounted; and, yielding their convictions of truth and of duty, soon relapse into their former state of mind. It is with profound gratitude that we recall any instances of those who have come off conquerors.

The value of the Sabbath school in such an institution as this, can hardly be over-estimated. The youth committed, as might be supposed, are grossly ignorant of the truths revealed

in the sacred Scriptures. Their attendance upon the means of grace has been slight; and although it is just this class of children which the Sabbath school is specially designed and fitted to benefit, very few have enjoyed its advantages with any degree of regularity.

It is impossible to say accurately, what have been the advantages, in this particular, of those who have been admitted the past year; but the following statement of the boys themselves, probably presents the subject in quite as favorable a light as it can be viewed:—

Whole number of new admissions,	. . . .	146
Have been regular in their attendance,	. . . .	10
Irregular, . . . . .	. . . . .	70
Have attended but a few times,	. . . . .	52
Never attended,	. . . . .	14

These youth, so ignorant of religious truth, have continued to enjoy the instruction of competent teachers, as formerly, mostly from the village, two miles distant. They have performed their task with patience and fidelity, after hoping against hope, and their efforts have been crowned with a good degree of success. The quarterly meetings have been seasons of interest, when we have been favored with the presence of persons interested in Sabbath schools generally, but particularly in ours.

The whole number of verses of Scripture committed	
to memory the past year, is	138,756
The average to a pupil for the year, is about . . .	500
The average to a pupil for each Sabbath, is nearly .	10

There is reason to believe that so much divine truth, treasured up in the mind, will not be entirely forgotten. We may hope that in future years, it will be awakened by passing occurrences, though it may have long slumbered in the memory; and serve to restrain, support, or console, as circumstances may require. The indelibility of religious instruction, has been forcibly illustrated in one or two instances, the past year, which have come under my observation; and they are worthy

of note. A small boy, prostrated with fever, was seized with delirium at the commencement of his illness. For many days it was difficult to engage his attention scarcely a moment, to ascertain his feelings or to learn his real wants. His language was broken and incoherent; and that endearing name, "*mother*," was given to all who approached his bedside, as with childish simplicity he requested them to hear him "say his prayers," and repeated, with singular earnestness and beauty, the words of petition he had learned years before, from maternal lips. In the case of those who died, it is a pleasing reflection, that, while God in mysterious wisdom so suddenly removed some, that they had no time to think of the future to which they hasted, and rendered others apparently incapable of the exercise of those thoughts which befit an immortal spirit, in the exchange of worlds, by withdrawing their reason, he graciously directed the attention of still others, through weary weeks of protracted illness, to the contemplation of those truths, which alone afford strength and peace in the dying hour. The propriety with which they expressed their feelings in view of approaching dissolution, and the simple earnestness with which they commended themselves, and desired others to commend them to Him in whose presence they were so soon to stand, was such an exhibition of the power of the Gospel, as reveals its beautiful adaptation to the weakest, as well as to the most powerful mind. My last interview with one of them, was but a few hours before his death. He seemed dwelling as much in the future, as in the present; now pouring out his own soul in prayer, now desiring that he might be remembered by others at the mercy seat. There were times when he seemed lost in his own contemplations; and these were more protracted, as he drew nearer and nearer to the close of his life. But the intervening moments were spent in repeating such passages of the sacred Scriptures, as his memory had treasured in health. It was in the last of these lucid intervals, that he opened his eyes, already dim and inexpressive, and repeated those beautiful words of the Saviour:—"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto

your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." There was no hesitation or faltering. They were the last words that could be distinguished with certainty. I have no doubt they were learned in the State Reform School.

I have mingled freely with the boys, and enjoyed almost daily interviews with them. Some, Nicodemus-like, have desired to see me alone, by night. To all, I have given counsel as I have had opportunity. Many of the facts thus elicited, would be found interesting and instructive, could they be detailed, as they illustrate the influences under which many of the rising generation are growing up.

We are looking forward with pleasure, to the completion of the enlargement now going forward, and I think we may expect to see it filled at the close of another year.

It is also gratifying to know that so much is being done for vicious and vagrant youth, in many of our sister States.

The Superintendent, and all other officers of the institution, from whom I have received favors, will accept my sincere thanks.

To Mr. Moses O. Ayres, the indefatigable Superintendent of the Sabbath school, and those teachers, who have with such generous devotion sustained its interests, I am especially grateful.

P. LINCOLN CUSHING, *Chaplain.*

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, }
Westborough, Mass., Nov. 30, 1852. }

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

WESTBOROUGH, December 4, 1852.*To the Trustees of the State Reform School:*

GENTLEMEN—In presenting a report to your Board upon the health of the inmates of this institution for the past year, it may be stated, in general terms, that the first four months would compare favorably with the corresponding period of the preceding year; although the usual prevalence, at this season, of inflammatory affections of the lungs and eyes has continued, with but little abatement.

Seven have died during the year, of the following diseases: two of Consumption, one of Lung Fever, two of Typhoid Fever, two of Inflammation of the Stomach. The two latter were very rapid in their progress to a fatal issue, and gave but little alarm to the officers of the house until it had become too late for remedies to be of any avail. That they were the subjects of agents operating with great energy upon the inner membranes of the stomach, was verified by examination; but what should have induced such a high degree of inflammation of this organ, with points of erosion, in so short time as inspection indicated, was not satisfactorily shown by a chemical analysis of the fluids contained in the stomach at death. There is some ground for suspicion that they may have eaten cakes of paint used for water colors, as some of these contain arsenic and other poisonous substances.

There have been sixty-two cases of typhoid fever in the house since the middle of August. The disease has assumed its ordinary form, except where the lungs were inflamed, or congested, which has been an element endangering life, more

or less, in about one-third of the number. Thirty was about the average number sick at one time during the month of September. One remains sick. With this exception, the boys generally have never appeared in better health than at this time.

Yours, respectfully,

H. H. RISING.

APPENDIX.

Extracts from Letters received from Masters, relative to Boys who have been apprenticed.

December 20, 1851.

After a delay of a week, I am able to answer your inquiries in relation to Richard. He has been well, and is at present—deportment good. He is contented, and goes to school this winter. He observes the Sabbath, and attends meeting and the Sabbath school. He is a good boy, and his prospects in future are good. He enjoys my confidence.

January 31, 1852.

Michael's health is, and has been good, since he has lived with me. His conduct has generally been good, but he has less energy than some boys of his age. He is very fond of his books—has attended school nine weeks, and will continue in school three months.

April 6, 1852.

I write to inform you of the welfare of the boy I took from your school about a year since. After the connection I have had with him, I feel it a duty that I owe to your institution to express my satisfaction, as it regards the conduct and improvement of James, thus far. I think he has made good proficiency in his books during the term of school which has now closed; and I hope, with the blessing of God, that our connection may be pleasant and profitable to us, and acceptable to him.

April 13, 1852.

C.'s conduct is good; he likes his employment. He has attended school three months this winter, and observes the Sabbath and attends meeting regularly. He seems to enjoy himself, and is contented—has a good disposition, and is trustworthy.

April 20, 1852.

I take pleasure to inform you that Master P. answers my expectations well; seems to be contented, and takes hold of his work with energy. I shall do what I can for him, and I think he will become aware of his own interests, as an inducement for him to conduct well.

June 12, 1852.

I am very well pleased with Charles; he seems to be a very good boy, so far. I like him very much indeed.

July 17, 1852.

Calvin is a good boy, and is doing very well. He is now attending school, and learns well.

August 4, 1852.

Claradon's general deportment is much better than it was previous to his going to your institution, and we hope and trust that he will continue to improve, and become useful and respected. In conclusion, I would say, that I think the lessons he learned while at your valuable institution have been very beneficial to him, and hope they may never be erased from his memory. He sends his love to you and all the officers and boys.

September 17, 1852.

Henry's health has been good. His character seems to be improving. As far as the trade is concerned, I like him very well; he has done as much as can be expected from one so young. He likes his trade.

September 20, 1852.

I write to inform you that Joseph, the boy I took from you last November, has, since he has been with me, enjoyed good health, and is very well liked.

November 10, 1852.

Yours of the 10th was duly received. You are anxious to know how Samuel is doing. I can say, he has been a good boy, thus far; and I have no reason to think he intends to do otherwise. I shall ever think it has been a great benefit to him to be under your instruction and counsel, and here desire to express my thanks to you and the other officers of the institution, for their kindness and efforts in his behalf.

November 13, 1852.

After nearly six months' acquaintance with James, I have the pleasure to inform you that he has more than met every anticipation of mine. He has proved himself faithful on all occasions—is a very pleasant member of our family—seems very tractable to learn about his employment—always ready and in perfect good humor to perform all that we require of him, and is gaining the esteem and good will of all with whom he becomes acquainted. His health has been good, and he seems determined to become a respectable, useful citizen in the community.

November 19, 1852.

I am happy to inform you that I have found Thomas a better boy than I expected. He has done well—has been faithful to me; more so than could hardly be expected from one situated as he was while young.

He has made a public profession of religion, and united himself with the church; and so far as can be judged, manifests generally a Christian spirit.

He attended school three months last winter, and made commendable progress.

November 22, 1852.

James remains with me, and gives satisfaction, and seems likely to improve. He conducts well, and has, since coming under my charge, and gets along very well with his trade. He is now attending school.

November 22, 1852.

Matthew has been a good boy, and seems to be satisfied with his employment. He will attend school three months this winter. He seems to enjoy himself, and is contented.

November 23, 1852.

I am happy to say, that Edward is now an obedient and good boy, and seems to care for his own interest and mine. He appears happy.

A few Extracts from Letters received from Boys who have been Discharged from the Institution.

January 24, 1852.

MR. LINCOLN,

Dear Sir:—I felt very much disappointed not to see you when you was up here; I was gone to B.

I am very well contented with my place. Sometimes, when I think what a good place I have got, I wish that I could exchange it with some of the good boys there. But I suppose that I need to stay here sometime yet, before I shall do to go out into the world to take care of myself.

I cannot help feeling grateful to the State Reform School and its officers, for I believe they have saved me from destruction. From your Pupil.

April 8, 1852.

MR. LINCOLN,

Dear Sir:—I cannot delay writing to you any longer, to express my sincere thanks to you, and through you to the officers of the institution, for your kindness to me while a member of the State Reform School. It will never be forgotten; and I trust the means there used for my benefit will prove a blessing to me. I have been quite sick, but the Lord has seen fit to restore me to health once more. I am now at work at my trade—a painter—and get along *first rate*. While I am painting, I sometimes think how many happy days I spent while there, and I feel to thank God that I am a better boy, and you for making me so. Yours, &c.

June 1, 1852.

Dear Friend:—Please excuse me for not writing to you before now. Circumstances prevented it.

I do not know how to express my gratitude which I feel for the blessings bestowed upon me when I entered the institution. I do, sir, most truly believe that if I had been suffered to go on, it would have been my ruin.

I am happy to inform you that I have tried hard to conquer the disgusting habit of using tobacco, and have succeeded in doing so. I formerly took pride in it; now I abhor it, and wish all the boys would do so.

I now bid adieu, &c.

November 15, 1852.

My Dear Friend:—Your letter of the 12th was received by me on the evening of the 13th, the perusal of which gave me a great deal of pleasure in one sense, and regret in another;—pleasure, to hear from you, and regret to learn the deaths since I left the school; and it impresses upon my mind a sense of our thankfulness to God for the many blessings of health which he has given us, while he has taken so many of our fellow beings from this earth, to be judged for the deeds they have done in the body.

Although I never yet have made a profession of religion, yet from this moment I will endeavor, according to the best of my ability, do what I believe to be right, and I am sure, if I follow and obey the advice and instruction which was imparted to me by my Sabbath school teacher (Mr. Boutelle) and also by the trustees and yourself, I cannot but help doing good, and what is of still more importance, feel that I am doing my duty to God, which I regard as being but small return for the many blessings he has bestowed upon us.

You are aware, I suppose, of the approaching period when I shall again associate with school-mates, and enter, for the first time in my life, into a country school-house, there to commence to be more familiarly acquainted with the boys of this village. I hope you will not learn any bad report from me while I am a member of this school. You know my disposition, and if I should be inclined to err, I hope you will not be discouraged and think I am going to continue so.

My master is all that I could wish; he is kind and condescending. By condescending, I do not want to have you understand he is willing to have me do wrong, for he is entirely the contrary. Having no children of his own, he therefore is more like a father towards me. I will conclude by informing you that he uses me a great deal better than I expected to be used when I left the institution. Yours, truly.

The following is a Letter written from a Boy in the Institution to his Parents, copied without correction in any respect.

September 18, 1852.

Dear Father:—I now take this pleasant opportunity to let you know how I am getting along. I am still enjoying very good health, for which I thank God. I have been very much surprised to see what rapid progress I have made in my studies since I have been here. When I first came here, I was in the lowest class but three. I am now in the second division of the highest class in the school, and I shall still try to improve while I have such a good opportunity as I now have, and I know if I try to improve all the privileges I here enjoy, I shall never be sorry for it in after life.

I hope William and Edward are still good boys. Indeed, I feel a great deal

of anxiety about them, while they remain in the city. You know there are a great many temptations in the city, but I hope they will not allow themselves to be enticed away by any of the wicked company which they see from day to day ; and if they do, you may rest assured that it will be their ruin.

And I hope you will bring them up under such right and honest principles, so that they may be able to resist all temptations which they may encounter in after life.

I should like very much to see them, and I hope it will not be long before either you or mother will be up to see me, with them.

From your affectionate son,

J. G.

OFFICERS.

TRUSTEES.

RUSSELL A. GIBBS.
SAMUEL WILLISTON.
THOMAS A. GREENE.
EDWARD B. BIGELOW.
DANIEL H. FORBES.
JOSIAH B. FRENCH.
GEORGE H. KUHN.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

GEORGE H. KUHN.
DANIEL H. FORBES.
EDWARD B. BIGELOW.

SUPERINTENDENT.

WILLIAM R. LINCOLN.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT.

ORVILLE K. HUTCHINSON.

MATRON.

CHESTINA H. PORTER.

CHAPLAIN.

REV. P. LINCOLN CUSHING.

STEWARD AND FARMER.

JAMES LEACH.

TEACHERS.

MERRITT L. WHITE.
AVERY C. GORE.

ASSISTANT TEACHER.

DANIEL SULLIVAN.

OVERSEERS OF WORKSHOP.

MOSES O. AYRES.

SAMUEL M. PICKARD.

BAKER.

ALBERT J. NEWELL.

LAUNDRESS.

ABIGAIL PAIGE.

SEAMSTRESSES.

MELINDA PALMER.

SOPHIA C. GORE.





STATE REFORM SCHOOL WESTBORD MASS.

SEVENTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE TRUSTEES
OF THE
STATE REFORM SCHOOL,
AT WESTBOROUGH,
TOGETHER WITH
THE ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOSTON:
WILLIAM WHITE, PRINTER TO THE STATE.
1854.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

The Trustees of the State Reform School respectfully present to the Governor and Council their Seventh Annual Report of the condition of the Institution, for the year ending November 30, 1853.

The reports of the Superintendent and Chaplain, transmitted herewith, which the Trustees beg should be considered as part of their Report, present clearly the condition of the School, and full information on the matters to which they relate.

The additional building, mentioned in the last Report as then in process of erection, has been completed and furnished. It measures two hundred and twenty-five feet on the front and rear, and two hundred feet on the easterly end, and is calculated to accommodate two hundred and fifty boys, with the officers and assistants necessary for their proper care, instruction and training. It contains a convenient chapel sufficiently capacious for the accommodation of all the inmates of the institution, commodious school-rooms, and an ample and well arranged hospital department, adequate to all the probable wants of the School under ordinary circumstances.

Leaving out of view a large amount of labor performed by the boys and by the teams of the institution, the building and its fixtures have cost fifty-four thousand seven hundred fifty-two dollars and fifty-three cents. Of this, fifty thousand dollars have been met by an appropriation from the Lyman Fund,

leaving four thousand seven hundred and fifty-two $\frac{53}{100}$ dollars to be provided by the future action of the legislature.

The completion of the new building was noticed on the 3d of November, by appropriate exercises, including an eloquent Address by Nathaniel P. Banks, Jr., delivered in presence of a large company of both sexes, composed in part of gentlemen from various sections of the State, distinguished for their interest in this and kindred institutions, and of numerous citizens residing in Westborough and its vicinity, drawn together by their sympathy with the great objects of the School, and their desire to avail themselves of a favorable opportunity of witnessing its arrangements.

There have been two public examinations of the schools in the course of the year, the reports of which are highly satisfactory, and testify alike to the faithfulness and skill of the teachers and to the attention and diligence of the pupils.

The special inquiries instituted through a committee of this Board, as mentioned in the last Report, for the purpose of ascertaining if any improvement in ventilation, any alteration in diet, or any other changes in the general economy could be made, with a view to promoting a better state of health among the boys, resulted in the adoption of certain changes in the various particulars referred to, which, we are confident, have operated favorably. The fever which prevailed so extensively among the boys during the autumn of last year continued to occur occasionally through the winter and spring. Since May last an unusual degree of health has been enjoyed.

Early in the year it had become apparent to the Trustees, that a change in the mode of conducting the business of the institution was highly expedient, perhaps indispensable, to its best success. Hitherto the Superintendent, in addition to his duties immediately connected with the main objects of the institution, had been permitted to purchase the various articles of food, clothing, &c., required for the use of the inmates, and also to direct the farming operations. Experience had shown that he could not perform these outside services without withdrawing his attention from duties incomparably more important, namely, such as pertain to the moral and physical well-being of the boys, without the constant and faithful performance of which

the success of the institution, in accomplishing the great objects sought to be obtained by its founders, cannot be secured, or the favorable consideration and liberal support of the legislature be expected.

The considerations contributing to sustain these views were strengthened by the confident expectation of a large increase to the number of boys at no very distant day, and the certainty that with this increase would come new demands upon the time of the Superintendent.

After mature deliberation, it was determined to provide for purchasing the necessary supplies by a Steward, and also to relieve the Superintendent of all responsibility in respect to the management of the farm, leaving him at liberty to devote all his energies to the main objects of the institution, and making it his special duty to do so.

This change has been effected. The whole charge of managing the farm has been confided to Mr. Samuel N. White, appointed to succeed Mr. Leach, the farmer, whose resignation was noticed in the Report of last year. The purchasing of supplies has been committed to a Steward, Mr. Moses O. Ayer, a gentleman for several years connected with the School, and possessing, in a high degree, the confidence of the Board, both as to his capacity for the duty assigned, and his fidelity in its performance.

The Trustees are gratified in being able to express their conviction of the beneficial effect of this arrangement. The duties of the three officers have been performed promptly and efficiently, and the interests of the institution have been promoted by this division of labor.

Mr. Lincoln, who from the first opening of the School had held the situation of Superintendent, resigned his place in March. He continued in charge of the School until the 9th of May. Mr. James M. Talcott, of Providence, appointed to succeed him, entered upon the discharge of the duties of the office on the 17th of the same month.

Miss C. H. Porter, the faithful Matron of the institution from its commencement, resigned her situation in October, and Mrs. Amanda S. Talcott was appointed her successor in this important trust.

Some months since, a communication was received from the Board of Agriculture, the object of which was to ascertain whether the Trustees of the State Reform School were favorably inclined towards placing the lands connected with the institution, or a part of them, in charge of that Board, to be used as an experimental farm. The Trustees signified their willingness to consent to such appropriation of the lands, under arrangements guarding effectually against any interference with the paramount objects of the institution. No definite arrangements have been entered into. The subject is referred to here, in order that it may receive the consideration its importance demands.

The Treasurer's report shows a balance of expenditures beyond the means provided, of \$6,133 79—arising chiefly from expenses connected with the new building, and partially from those incurred for the better warming and ventilating the old school-rooms and dormitory.

The account of the School, as distinct from the Farm, may be stated as follows:—

The School is charged with sundry expenses as	
per Treasurer's report,	\$25,725 49
With sundries from the Farm, viz.:—	
953 bushels potatoes, at 63c,	\$600 39
Beans, beets, parsnips, and other vegetables,	277 00
Fruit, part of which was sold,	324 50
6,265 gallons milk, at 11c,	689 15
8,828 lbs. beef, at 6½c,	573 82
1,756 lbs. veal, at 7c,	122 92
1 horse, and keeping horses,	275 00
Labor of men and teams, grading near the new building, and hauling lum- ber and coal and other supplies from railroad depot,	1,000 00
	<hr/>
	3,862 78
Salaries and wages,	7,299 33
	<hr/>
Total,	\$35,887 60

And has credit for

Cash received for labor of boys, . . .	\$4,015 49
Labor of boys on farm, 99,640 days,	
at 15c,	1,494 60
Board of farmers,	382 00
Amount received for house and shop	
rent, and for sundries sold, . . .	945 63
	<hr/>
	\$6,837 72
Balance,	<hr/>
	\$30,049 88

The account of the Farm, as distinct from the School, may be stated as follows:—

The Farm is charged with the stock on

hand, 1st December, 1852: 8 oxen,	
2 steers, 4 bulls, 18 cows, 13 heifers,	
5 calves, and 2 horses,	\$1,664 00
35 tons English hay, at \$15,	\$525 00
19 " meadow " at \$10,	190 00
25 " corn fodder, at \$6,	150 00
500 bushels corn, at 90c.,	450 00
100 " oats, at 50c.,	50 00
2097 " carrots, at 25c.,	524 25
1410 " Swedish turnips,	
at 20c.,	282 00
	<hr/>
	2,171 25
	<hr/>
	\$3,835 25

With payments since—

4 oxen, \$333; 2 horses, \$260, . . .	\$593 00
Hay, \$335 75; corn, \$46, . . .	381 75
Potatoes to plant, seed corn, and grass	
and garden seeds,	48 00
Salary of farmer and wages	
of men,	\$1,275 78
Board of men,	382 00
	<hr/>
	1,657 78
Labor, laying wall and repairs, . . .	560 00
Labor of boys, 99,640 days, at 15c., .	1,494 60

Blacksmithing, mending wagons and harness, tools, guano, and sundry small charges,	\$650 58	
	<hr/>	\$5.385 71
Total charged the Farm,		<hr/> <hr/> \$9,220 96

The Farm has credit for—

Sundries supplied the School, (see above,)	\$3,862 78
Building wall and repairs belonging to improvement of real estate,	\$560 00
Less received for wood,	52 50
	<hr/>
	507 50
Sundries sold,	214 09

Stock on hand 30th November, 1853—

10 oxen, \$850 ; 20 cows, \$600,	\$1,450 00
2 heifers, \$28 ; 1 bull, \$15 ; 2 horses, \$250,	293 00
50 tons hay, at \$17,	850 00
20 tons meadow hay, at \$8,	160 00
1,396 bushels corn, at \$1 ; 147 bushels oats, at 50c,	1,469 50
1,008 bushels carrots, at 25c,	252 00
2,220 bush. Swedish turnips, at 1s.	370 00
30 tons corn fodder, at \$8,	240 00
	<hr/>
	5,084 50
	<hr/>
	\$9.668 87

Leaving a balance in favor of the Farm, \$447 91

To meet the expenses of the ensuing year, we think the sum of thirty-six thousand dollars will be required, viz. :—

For provisions and clothing for 500 boys, at \$40, \$20,000 00
For salaries, wages, and support of officers, 11,000 00
For fuel, lights, and current expenses, 8,000 00

For repairs, and incidental expenses, . . .	\$2,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$41,000 00
Deduct estimated receipts for labor of boys, . . .	5,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$36,000 09
To which add deficit of this year—say, . . .	6,200 00
	<hr/>
Total amount of appropriation asked for, . . .	\$42,200 000

The annual appropriations heretofore made have been calculated to meet the expenses of a year commencing on the first of December. It has but rarely happened that the Resolve making the appropriation has been carried through its various stages and received the executive sanction, until four months of the year had passed away. In the ordinary course of legislation, earlier action is not to be expected in future. The Treasurer is thus left for one-third of the year without funds to meet the daily calls upon him. Persons furnishing supplies, and those who labor for the institution, must wait for their pay, or the Treasurer, as has heretofore been the practice, must borrow money to satisfy their claims. Each of these alternatives is liable to grave objection. Individuals to whom the Commonwealth becomes indebted for articles furnished or labor performed, are entitled to, and should receive, prompt payment. If the Treasurer borrows money for the use of the Commonwealth, not only must the State be subjected to a charge for interest, but the Treasurer, in so doing, performs a service and assumes a responsibility which it was never contemplated he should be required to perform or assume.

The Trustees respectfully request that future payments from the treasury of the Commonwealth for the support of the institution, may be so ordered as seasonably to place in the hands of its Treasurer means to meet the ordinary calls upon him.

Five years have elapsed since the opening of the institution. Nearly one thousand boys have been subjects of its discipline, of whom six hundred have gone forth to their various places in the community, many of them, we have reason to believe, carrying hence characters and principles that justify the confident expectation of their future usefulness and respectability.

Who can estimate the benefits resulting to the common weal, and the happiness kindled in many hearts, if but a tithe of this number have been rescued from a course of degradation and sin, incited to industry, frugality and virtue, and thus made instruments of good to themselves, their connections, and society?

May we not say that the institution has vindicated its claim to public confidence and support, and answered fully the reasonable expectations of its founders?

Let us hope for the continued smiles of a beneficent Providence upon the labors of those engaged in conducting its affairs, and that coming years may witness, in all its departments, the benign influence of their fidelity and wisdom.

THOMAS A. GREENE.
EDWARD B. BIGELOW.
DANIEL H. FORBES.
JOSIAH B. FRENCH.
GEORGE H. KUHN.
JOHN H. W. PAGE.
HARVEY DODGE.

WESTBOROUGH, December 20, 1853.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents the Seventh Annual Report.

The Treasurer charges himself, from December 1st, 1852, to November 30th, 1853, inclusive, as follows:—

For balance of cash on hand Nov. 30th, 1852,	. \$410 67
For amount received from the State treasury,	. 30,000 00
For amounts received for boys' work, . . .	. 4,015 49
For sundries sold from the institution, . . .	. 1,159 72
	<hr/> \$35,585 88

And he states the expenditures for the year as follows:—

Hospital expenses,	\$209 22
Tools, leather, and materials for shoe shop, . . .	476 67
Salaries, wages, and labor,	8,575 11
Farming tools, stock, and improvements on the farm,	2,666 54
Fuel and lights,	2,817 79
Provisions and groceries,	10,322 99
General improvements and repairs,	\$4,957 91
Furniture and bedding,	4,706 19
	<hr/> \$9,664 10
Less, income of Lyman Fund, appropriated by order of Trustees, . . .	4,219 08
	<hr/> 5,445 02
Cost of the new building and fixtures, over and above the appropriation from the Lyman Fund,	4,752 53
Books, stationery, and printing,	585 06

Clothing,	\$3,915 34
Trustees' expenses,	595 75
Transportation,	477 76
Postage,	35 33
Miscellaneous,	844 56
	<hr/>
	\$41,719 67

Showing an excess of expenditures beyond the means provided to meet them, of six thousand one hundred and thirty-three dollars and seventy-nine cents, which amount is now due to sundry persons whose bills for articles furnished and labor performed, remain unpaid.

Tools and Materials for the Shoe Shop, include

Leather, 304 $\frac{3}{4}$ feet,	\$45 76
Leather, 422 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	76 25
Pegs, tacks, wax, &c.,	6 23
Thread, 310 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	183 45
Tools,	164 98
	<hr/>
	\$476 67

General Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials on general repairs, . . .	\$1,756 87
Iron work,	42 59
Painting brushes, &c.,	605 89
Repairing steam apparatus,	153 48
Locks, keys, and door handles,	31 63
Glass and glazing,	62 53
Pumps and lead pipe,	154 45
Paper hangings,	14 04
Repairing slating,	75 00
Labor and materials in changing school-rooms, .	1,027 34
Steam pipes and fixtures for warming school-rooms,	397 77
Carpenters' and blacksmiths' tools,	21 42
Grist mill and fixtures,	179 85

Corn-cracker,	\$50 00
Belting, circular saws, &c.,	36 55
Repairs on farm-house,	118 86
Repairs on houses occupied by contractors,	229 64
	<hr/>
	\$4,957 91

Books, Stationery, and Printing, include

School books,	\$453 14
Blank books and printing,	9 70
Slates, 303,	26 29
Terrestrial globe,	11 00
Writing books, paper, pens, ink, &c.,	71 93
Map of the United States,	6 00
Working Farmer,	1 00
Evening Traveller,	5 00
Massachusetts Teacher,	1 00
	<hr/>
	\$585 06

Furniture and Bedding, include

Ticking, 2,092 yards,	\$253 51
Sheeting, 927½ yards,	98 86
Table linen and crash, 505¼ yards,	96 35
Dimity and lawn, 65 yards,	8 13
Diaper for spreads, 781 yards,	148 49
Mattresses, feather bed and pillows,	35 93
Bedsteads, 9,	45 38
Blankets, 159,	340 50
Lancaster quilts, 12,	23 40
Bureaus, chairs, desk, and tables,	285 81
Table covers and curtain fixtures,	7 28
Mirrors, 17—\$19 85; crickets, 8—\$6 50,	26 35
Sofas, 3—\$59; hat-tree, \$4 50,	63 50
Sinks and wash-stands, 8,	39 72
Towel stands, 8,	8 00
Prints and batting,	167 21
Thread,	4 88

Rubber sheeting,	\$8 44
Curled hair for pillows, 400 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	122 16
Chair cushions, 12,	18 00
Straw for beds, 16,884 pounds,	103 57
Carpeting, 369 yards,	367 03
Mats, 46,	43 18
Clothes-lines and wash-boards,	22 25
Pails, 10 dozen,	32 70
Tubs and other wooden ware,	16 55
Knives and forks, \$134 18; spoons, \$10 27,	144 45
Crockery,	256 88
Glass and earthen ware,	16 15
Brooms and brushes,	90 78
Tin, copper, and iron ware,	97 99
Lanterns and lamps,	80 43
Chimneys and shades,	24 06
Baskets, 28,	12 32
Scissors and shears, 25 pairs,	10 90
Union scale, \$6; steelyards, \$3 25,	9 25
Stoves, funnel, &c.,	286 09
School desks and seats, 260,	1,041 00
Teachers' desks, 6,	60 25
Painting settees,	150 00
Sundries,	38 46
	<hr/>
	\$4,706 19

Clothing, includes

Satinets, 1,904 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	\$1,188 58
Denims, 1,858 yards,	219 09
Cotton cloth, 4,442 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	344 75
Flannel, 1,058 yards,	197 94
Woollen cloth, 46 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	55 24
Coats and pants, 2,	31 34
Brown linen, 317 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	60 33
Tweed, 34 yards,	9 73
Gingham, \$4 57; cambric, \$19 53,	24 10
Caps, 42 $\frac{3}{4}$ dozen,	116 53

Palm-leaf hats, 40 dozen,	\$90 00
Hat binding,	6 00
Thread, 134½ pounds,	117 53
Vesting, 226 yards,	63 90
Frocking, 73¼ yards,	39 53
Needles, pins, and thimbles,	28 17
Buttons, 161 gross,	24 77
Socks, 67 dozen (cotton yarn), \$1 21,	217 71
Boots, 65 pairs; shoes, 1,047 pairs,	1,043 57
Suspenders, 8 dozen; cravats, 5 dozen,	13 54
Combs, 172½ dozen,	14 36
Wax, sponge, and other small articles,	8 63
	<hr/>
	\$3,915 34

Provisions and Groceries, include

Flour, 819 barrels,	\$5,007 92
Rye meal, 171 bushels,	159 65
Indian meal, 271 bushels,	225 38
Malt, 620 pounds,	19 77
Crackers,	77 66
Beef, 32,631¼ pounds,	1,736 81
Pork, 1,239½ pounds,	145 83
Mutton, 640½ pounds,	53 24
Veal, 1,392½ pounds,	99 37
Tripe, 329½ pounds,	26 36
Fish, 3,788 pounds,	232 07
Poultry, 221½ pounds,	30 17
Potatoes, 26 bushels,	13 30
Beans and peas, 74¾ bushels,	119 23
Rice, 5,269 pounds,	235 71
Salt, 44 bushels,	31 68
Sugar, 3,889 pounds,	266 88
Coffee, 779 pounds,	99 45
Tea, 124 pounds,	43 93
Chocolate, 25 pounds,	4 00
Molasses, 1,252 gallons,	323 11
Butter, 3,141½ pounds,	648 53

Cheese, 461 pounds,	\$47 28
Saleratus, 287 pounds,	15 18
Lard, 1,219 pounds,	152 20
Soap, 1,532 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	82 54
Potash, 907 pounds ; soda, 144 pounds,	56 53
Tapioca, 67 pounds ; sago, 48 pounds,	10 92
Eggs, 111 $\frac{1}{4}$ dozen,	19 27
Hops, 146 pounds,	39 45
Apples, 3 barrels,	9 75
Dried apples, 120 pounds,	6 42
Cream tartar, 188 pounds,	46 37
Cranberries,	7 00
Other fruit, raisins, &c.,	34 60
Alum, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds ; starch, 37 pounds,	3 43
Ginger, pepper, and other small groceries,	37 66
Vinegar, 858 gallons,	74 43
Onions, 20 bushels,	11 60
Squashes, cucumbers, and other vegetables,	32 96
Cask chloride of lime,	29 10
Bags, 25,	6 25
	<hr/>
	\$10,322 99

*Farming Tools, Stock, and Improvements on the Farm,
include*

Plough, 1 ; yoke, 1 ; chains, 2 ; cattle ties, 4 ; steel rakes, 8 ; spades, 6 ; shovels, 48 ; hoes, 60 ; manure pullers, 2 ; picks, 12 ; scythes, 11 ; snath, 1 ; grindstone, 1 ; grass-hook, 1 ; rakes, 3 ; forks, 3 ; stone hammers, 2 ; and wheel-barrows, 15, .	\$187 45
Oxen, 4,	333 00
Horses, 2,	245 00
Cows, 3,	79 50
Axes and helves,	17 01
Drag-plank,	1 50
Measures,	2 58
Grain, 50 bushels,	44 00
Grass and garden seeds,	68 06

Potatoes to plant, 25 bushels,	\$6 25
Corn and oats,	11 25
Hay, 51,634 pounds,	393 60
Salt, and pasturing cattle,	10 93
Plaster, 2,000 pounds,	6 25
Labor, laying wall and blasting rocks,	689 17
Blacksmith work,	236 37
Repairing carts, wagons, sleigh, and farming tools,	59 54
Harness, repairing whips, &c.,	39 05
Guano, 940 pounds,	23 50
Strawberry boxes, 100,	4 33
Commission for selling strawberries,	10 00
Milk cans, 6,	5 67
Posts, 40 ; rails, 120,	12 73
Trimming fruit trees,	11 00
Buggy, 1,	55 00
Super-phosphate of lime, 1,232 pounds,	34 17
Cards and brushes,	7 28
Repairing barn,	53 04
Miscellaneous,	19 51
	<hr/>
	\$2,666 54

Fuel and Lights, include

Coal, 353 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons gross,	\$2,257 79
Charcoal, 70 bushels,	10 72
Wood, 17 cords,	48 87
Oil, 537 gallons,	495 68
Lampwicks and wicking,	4 73
	<hr/>
	\$2,817 79

Miscellaneous includes

Expenses in pursuing and returning elopers,	\$119 41
Expenses in returning boys to friends, and fitting them out to sea,	60 70
Travelling expenses on business for the institution,	107 77
Visiting apprentices,	18 05

Expenses in pursuing and returning apprentices who had left their places,	\$44 63
Advertising and procuring help,	2 95
Conveying Sabbath school teachers to the institution,	112 50
Coffins, and expenses of funerals,	30 00
Painting and new covering wagons, repairing har- nesses, &c.,	31 18
Harness, 1,	33 50
Buffalo robe, 1,	7 12
Repairing fire-engine and hose,	43 75
Telescope,	35 00
Sewing machine,	100 00
Conveying invited guests to the dedication of the new building,	60 00
Sundries,	38 00
	<hr/>
	\$844 56

The cost of the new building and fixtures is, \$54,752 53

As follows:—

George T. Wheeler, for mason work, \$16,645 59	
Seth Flagg, for bricks, 6,517 89	
J. A. Longley, for carpenters' work, . 21,356 31	
Miscellaneous, labor on foundation, large cistern in yard, grates for windows, furnaces, pipes, superintendence, &c., 10,232 74	
	<hr/>
	\$54,752 53

Deduct appropriation from Lyman Fund by order of the Legislature, \$50,000	
—of which paid as per last report, \$21,686 06	
Since last report, 28,313 94	
	<hr/>
	50,000 00

Leaving balance carried to general account, . . . \$4,752 53

EDWARD B. BIGELOW,
Treasurer S. R. School.

WESTBOROUGH, November 30, 1853.

L Y M A N F U N D .

Amount of the Fund, November 30, 1852, as per last report,	\$48,313 94
Paid on account of the addition to the buildings, as authorized by a Resolve of the Legislature, passed in March, 1852,	28,313 94
Leaving present amount of the Fund,	<hr/> \$20,000 00

Income of the Fund.

Balance of income on hand, November 30, 1852, \$1,947 08	
Received, dividends and interest,	2,272 00
	<hr/> \$4,219 08

All of which has been appropriated, by order of the Trustees, towards general improvements and repairs, and the purchase of furniture for the new building.

EDWARD B. BIGELOW,
Treasurer Lyman Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, November 30, 1853.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School:—

GENTLEMEN,—Another year is now added to the history of the Institution under your care, and at this point it becomes my duty to lay before you a brief statement of its affairs, for which purpose I would respectfully present the following Report:

TABLE 1,

Showing the number Received, and the general state of the School, for the year ending November 30, 1853.

Boys in School December 1st, 1852,	341	
“ committed since,	262	
Apprentices returned by masters,	22	
“ who had left their masters, arrested by order of Trustees,	10	
“ who had left their masters, returned voluntarily,	5	
	—	37
Whole number in the School during the year,	—	640
Boys discharged,	239	
“ remanded to alternative sentences,	5	
“ returned to masters,	3	
“ escaped,	3	
“ died,	5	
	—	16
Total,		255
Remaining in School November 30th, 1853,		385

TABLE 2,

Showing the Commitments from each County the past year and previously.

Counties.	1852.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable,	—	2	2
Bristol,	25	72	97
Berkshire,	10	23	33
Dukes,	1	1	2
Essex,	55	143	198
Franklin,	1	3	4
Hampden,	25	26	51
Hampshire,	4	6	10
Middlesex,	41	146	187
Nantucket,	—	1	1
Norfolk,	23	38	61
Plymouth,	4	5	9
Suffolk,	47	176	223
Worcester,	26	82	108
Total,	262	724	986

TABLE 3,

Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and average number for each month in the year.

Months.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Average No.
December, 1852,	19	28	335.
January, 1853,	13	17	328.
February, "	10	8	328.
March, "	25	25	329.1
April, "	35	33	333.5
May, "	16	26	325.7
June, "	23	22	329.4
July, "	24	16	341.
August, "	19	23	353.
September, "	27	24	357.
October, "	24	19	364.
November, "	27	14	378.
Total,	262	255	—

TABLE 4,

Showing the disposal of those discharged the past year and previously.

	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Discharged by Board of Trustees, . . .	58	99	157
“ on expiration of sentence, . . .	8	38	46
Rejected and Remanded, . . .	5	46	51
Indented to Farmers and Gardners, . . .	43	87	130
“ Boot and Shoemakers, . . .	84	43	127
“ Carpenters, . . .	8	11	19
“ Bakers, . . .	1	2	3
“ Silver Platers, . . .	1	5	6
“ Cabinetmakers, . . .	2	2	4
“ Pianofortemakers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Shoe Tool Makers, . . .	—	2	2
“ Mahogany Chair Makers, . . .	1	1	2
“ Trunkmakers, . . .	—	2	2
“ Sawmakers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Sailmakers, . . .	—	2	2
“ Pump and Blockmakers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Sleighmakers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Harnessmakers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Combmakers, . . .	2	—	2
“ Musical Instrument Makers, . . .	1	—	1
“ Tin and Sheet Iron Workers, . . .	—	2	2
“ Tailors, . . .	4	3	7
“ Machinists, . . .	1	2	3
“ Ship Carpenters & Boatbuilder, . . .	1	2	3
“ Engraver, . . .	—	1	1
“ Merchants, . . .	1	—	1
“ Painters, . . .	6	1	7
“ Plumber, . . .	—	1	1
“ Masons, . . .	2	4	6
“ Bookbinders, . . .	—	1	1
“ Butchers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Veneer Sawing, . . .	—	1	1
“ Clerks, . . .	—	1	1
“ Blacksmiths, . . .	2	3	5
“ Japanner, . . .	—	1	1
“ Rigger, . . .	—	1	1
“ Tanner and Currier . . .	1	1	2
“ Stonecutter, . . .	—	1	1
“ Wheelwright, . . .	—	1	1
“ Barbers, . . .	5	1	6
“ Printers, . . .	1	1	2
“ Coopers, . . .	2	3	5
“ Sea Captain, . . .	1	—	1
“ Engineer, . . .	1	—	1
“ Wood Turner, . . .	1	—	1
“ Attend School, . . .	1	5	6
“ Discharged by order of Court, . . .	—	6	6
“ Returned to Masters, . . .	3	—	3
“ Escapes, . . .	3	3	6
“ Died, . . .	5	14	19
Total, . . .	255	406	661

Those discharged by “Board of Trustees,” were, as heretofore, returned to parents, who seemed proper persons, and sent to sea, or placed without indenture at trades procured for them.

Those returned to masters were elopers from their places, taken, and brought to the institution by order of the “Board of Trustees.” They now seem contented, and doing well. They were influenced in leaving by injudicious parents or friends.

TABLE 5,

Showing by what authority committed.

Committed.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas, . . .	10	62	72
“ Boston Municipal Court, . . .	24	75	99
“ Boston Police Court, . . .	22	93	115
“ Fall River “ . . .	12	1	13
“ Lawrence, “ . . .	16	25	41
“ Lowell, “ . . .	14	43	57
“ Lynn, “ . . .	5	15	20
“ Newburyport “ . . .	8	30	38
“ New Bedford “ . . .	9	34	43
“ Pittsfield, “ . . .	6	16	22
“ Salem, “ . . .	14	54	68
“ Springfield “ . . .	7	2	9
“ Taunton, “ . . .	3	5	8
“ Worcester, “ . . .	10	31	41
“ Justices of the Peace and Trial Jus- tices, . . .	102	238	340
Total, . . .	262	724	986

TABLE 6,

Showing the Offences of those committed the past year and previously.

Committed.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
For Larceny,	90	256	346
" Stubbornness,	102	293	395
" Idle and disorderly,	14	33	47
" Vagrancy,	16	43	59
" Shop-breaking and stealing,	3	22	25
" House-breaking,	—	7	7
" Burglary,	2	2	4
" Shop-breaking, with intent to steal,	16	9	25
" Pilfering,	1	10	11
" Having obscene books and prints for circulation,	—	2	2
" Common drunkard,	1	4	5
" Malicious mischief,	4	18	22
" Assault,	—	5	5
" Trespass,	1	6	7
" Arson,	1	2	3
" Runaway,	4	8	12
" Robbery from the person,	—	1	1
" Quarrelling and profanity,	—	1	1
" Assault and battery,	5	1	6
" Forgery,	—	1	1
" Concealing stolen goods,	1	—	1
" Attempt at Larceny,	1	—	1
Totals,	262	724	986

Stubbornness still continues to be a leading cause for commitments.

While in many cases the real offence is a crime of some grave nature, still, by careful examination, it will be found that it covers "truancy" oftener than any other offence; which, in our large towns and cities, is one great source of juvenile crime, and one which, I feel, should by no means be overlooked, for the incorrigible truant, once familiar (as he is sure soon to be) with the theatre, bowling saloon, race course, and other places of amusement, debauchery and crime, will be found among the most unfavorable subjects for reform.

TABLE 7,

Showing the Length of Sentences the past year and previously.

Sentenced.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
During their minority,	196	573	769
Until twenty years of age,	—	5	5
“ nineteen years of age,	—	1	1
“ eighteen years of age,	—	2	2
“ fourteen years of age,	—	1	1
For one year,	18	27	45
“ one year and six months,	1	3	4
“ two years,	17	31	48
“ two years and six months,	—	2	2
“ three years,	16	38	54
“ four years,	7	13	20
“ four years and six months,	—	1	1
“ five years,	4	13	17
“ six years,	2	8	10
“ eight years,	1	4	5
“ ten years,	—	2	2
Total,	262	724	986

TABLE 8,

Showing the Length of Alternative Sentences the past year and previously.

Sentences.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	2	8	10
For seven years,	1	—	1
“ four years,	4	4	8
“ three years six months,	—	1	1
“ three years,	—	10	10
“ two years six months,	—	1	1
“ two years,	14	43	57
“ one year six months,	1	11	12
“ one year three months,	15	3	18
“ one year,	—	56	56
“ nine months,	—	3	3
“ eight months,	1	4	5
“ six months,	88	183	271
“ five months,	1	8	9
“ four months,	4	20	24
“ three months,	39	120	159
“ two months,	39	128	167
“ one month,	41	49	90
“ ninety days,	—	7	7
“ sixty days,	—	17	17
“ forty days,	—	1	1
“ less than one month,	12	47	59
Totals,	262	724	986

TABLE 9,

Showing the Nativity of all committed the past year and previously.

Nativity.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Born in Ireland,	29	72	101
“ New Brunswick,	9	16	25
“ England,	3	11	14
“ Canada,	3	5	8
“ Nova Scotia,	2	6	8
“ Scotland,	—	4	4
“ France,	—	1	1
“ Cuba,	1	—	1
Foreigners,	47	115	162
Born in Massachusetts,	175	488	663
“ Maine,	8	32	40
“ New Hampshire,	7	22	29
“ New York,	9	18	27
“ Vermont,	10	15	25
“ Connecticut,	3	11	14
“ Rhode Island,	1	12	13
“ Maryland,	—	3	3
“ New Jersey,	1	2	3
“ Pennsylvania,	—	3	3
“ Virginia,	1	2	3
“ Louisiana,	—	1	1
Natives,	215	609	824
Foreigners,			162
Natives,			824
Total,			986

Of the 824 reported born in the United States, 570 are of American parentage, 220 of Irish, 22 of English, 6 of French, 3 of Scotch, 2 of German, 1 of Danish.

TABLE 10,

Showing the Ages of the Boys when committed.

Committed.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Seven years of age,	3	3	6
Eight " "	10	18	28
Nine " "	15	33	48
Ten " "	32	65	97
Eleven " "	24	81	105
Twelve " "	37	102	139
Thirteen " "	35	107	142
Fourteen " "	47	136	183
Fifteen " "	50	158	208
Sixteen " "	7	6	13
Seventeen " "	2	4	6
Nineteen " "	—	7	7
Unknown,	—	4	4
Total,	262	724	986

Average when committed about 12½ years.

For Table 11, showing the supposed causes of crime for which the boys have been committed, I would respectfully refer you to the report of the Chaplain, who has examined the subject with much care. I would also refer you to the same source for information relative to the moral condition of the institution, and as to what has been done, and is still doing, to morally and religiously affect our youthful charge.

The course of discipline we aim to pursue is chiefly moral rather than physical, and it is our constant endeavor to maintain, as nearly as possible, a system of what might perhaps be properly termed *family discipline*; causing each to feel that he has a personal interest in the welfare of all. And we constantly aim to awaken in their minds sentiments of self-reliance and self-respect, which will bring into action the better energies of their minds, and cause them to put forth successful efforts to overcome temptation.

Our punishments are chiefly loss of grade, standing in some secluded part of the room for reflection, privation of conversation, of work, of play, of regular food, or of one meal entirely, staying for a longer or shorter period in the "Lodge"—sometimes darkened, and in some instances have we deemed it wise to resort to corporal punishments of more or less severity.

In our efforts to make for our inmates a profitable home, it has been our endeavor not only to throw around them inducements to lead them to improve their minds and correct their habits, but also to provide time and means for innocent sports and recreations, often taking large numbers of them beyond their accustomed limits, that they may with greater freedom enjoy these pastimes.

The division of time for school, labor, &c., is nearly as follows:—Rise at five o'clock, dress and wash during the first half hour following; school till seven; attend morning prayers; breakfast and recreations till eight; school till nine; work till twelve; dinner and recreations till one; work till four; recreations and supper till five; school till seven; after which evening prayers are attended, and the boys retire for the night. The above is our present arrangement; at other seasons of the year the hours for labor, school, &c., are changed to suit the season, but the general arrangement is observed. As will be seen, the above arrangement gives four and one-half hours for school, six hours for labor, and ample time for amusements, sleep, &c.

AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT.

Number in the stitching shop,	74
“ “ “ contractor's shop,	73
“ “ “ tailor's shop,	85
“ “ farming, gardening, and out-door-work,	48
“ “ laundry, scrubbing, and work about the house,	44
“ “ kitchen, cooking and baking,	16
“ “ miscellaneous,	4

SHOE DEPARTMENT.

This consists of two shops, the "contractor's shop," and the "stitching and repairing shop." In the former, the boys have been engaged in the manufacture of light shoes, for Messrs. Gilmore & Cole, of Boston. The average number employed in this shop is seventy-three, and they have made 79,452 pairs of shoes. In the latter, the boys have been engaged in closing shoes and boots for neighboring manufacturers, and in repairing shoes for the institution. No shoes have been made, as the larger boys who have formerly done this work, have been employed by the contractors. The average number of boys employed in this shop is seventy-four, and they have performed the following amount of labor:—

The closing of 76,807 prs. of shoes,
 " stitching " 2,427 " " boots,
 " binding " 562 " " shoes,
 " repairing " 1,472 " " boots and shoes for the institution.

TAILOR'S SHOP.

The boys in this shop have been engaged in the making and repairing of the boy's clothing, bedding, &c. The average number employed in this shop is eighty-five, and they have performed the following amount of labor, as appears from the monthly reports of the matron in charge of this apartment, &c.

Made 979 jackets,	Made 249 sheets,
" 971 pairs pants,	" 444 spreads,
" 94 vests,	" 234 towels,
" 1,416 shirts,	" 553 aprons,
" 134 pairs socks,	" 703 pairs suspenders,
" 22 " mittens,	" 130 flannel wrappers,
" 314 bedticks,	" 187 comforters,
" 438 pillows,	" 152 handkerchiefs,
" 903 pillow ticks,	" 59 sack coats,

Made 8 frocks,	Made 3 table-cloths,
“ 4 curtains,	

Whole number made during the year, . . . 7,997

Repaired 2,763 jackets,	Repaired 30 frocks,
“ 4,702 pairs pants,	“ 450 straw hats,
“ 2,497 shirts,	“ 375 caps,
“ 2,868 pairs socks,	“ 204 pairs mittens,
“ 740 sheets & spreads,	“ 300 comforters,
“ 90 bedticks,	“ 200 pillows.

Whole number repaired during the year, . . . 15,219

HEALTH.

During the first part of the year, as I am informed by the Physician, Dr. H. H. Rising, several of the boys suffered more or less from the effects of the disease which prevailed so extensively during the latter part of last year, and five deaths occurred, but during the last half of the year the health of the boys has been very good; no case of severe sickness having occurred, and during four successive months the hospital being entirely unoccupied.

SCHOOL APARTMENT.

The same division of classes was continued as heretofore reported, till very near the close of the year, when, upon the opening of the enlargement, a new arrangement was made. This consisted of four principal classes; the first and second composed the lower department, and were each divided into four divisions. The third and fourth composed the upper or more advanced department; they were also subdivided.

The first class contained beginners in reading, spelling, &c., and the second those who could read easy lessons. These classes also attended to the first principles of arithmetic, geography and writing.

The third class comprises those who could read books gen-

erally, and the fourth class was still more advanced. These classes attended to practical arithmetic, geography, grammar, reading, spelling and writing. The fourth class also studied the History of the United States and the Elements of Astronomy.

The school now consists of six principal classes, each embracing two departments and their several divisions.

Those committed the past year have entered each class as follows :—

	1st Div'n	2d. Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
Entered Class No. 1, . . .	71	18	24	4	117
“ “ “ 2, . . .	20	24	16	2	62
“ “ “ 3, . . .	6	28	12	—	46
“ “ “ 4, . . .	32	3	2	—	37

Those discharged during the year, were from the following classes :—

	1st Div'n.	2d. Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
Discharged from Class No. 1,	1	3	7	59	71
“ “ “ 2,	—	11	23	25	61
“ “ “ 3,	7	2	54	—	66
“ “ “ 4,	4	8	51	—	67

The following have been promoted to higher classes :—

	1st Div'n.	2d Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
Promoted from Class No. 1,	75	94	58	64	291
“ “ “ 2,	103	72	94	68	337
“ “ “ 3,	114	80	52	—	246
“ “ “ 4,	107	74	86	—	267

Present number in each class:—

	1st Div'n.	2d Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
In Class No. 1, . . .	20	30	28	27	105
“ “ 2, . . .	23	27	27	24	101
“ “ 3, . . .	27	22	25	31	105
“ “ 4, . . .	26	18	30	—	74
	—	—	—	—	385

Present number in school, 385.

Of these, read books generally, with more or less correctness, and write,	271
Read easy lessons, and write after copies,	44
Can neither read or write, or read by syllables,	70
	385

Have studied practical arithmetic,	245
“ “ Colburn's First Lessons,	123
“ “ through simple rules of practical arithmetic,	40
“ “ “ Reduction,	92
“ “ “ Fractions,	66
“ “ “ Rule of Three, or Proportion,	17
“ “ “ Cube Root,	14
“ “ Geography,	315
“ “ History of United States,	36
“ “ Grammar,	78
“ “ Mental Algebra,	14
“ “ Astronomy,	50
Write on paper,	315
The remainder, 70, write on slates.	

During the last part of the year, for a considerable time, the schools labored under very great disadvantages, owing to the want of proper accommodations while the school-rooms were undergoing alterations and repairs, which were greatly retarded,

owing to the difficulty in obtaining mechanics for the performance of the labor.

The very crowded condition of the institution previous to the opening of the enlargement, which did not take place till the 3d inst., the number being from twenty to thirty greater than at any other period of the institution's history, and the unusually large number received and discharged, were also serious obstacles in the way of improvement. Still, notwithstanding all these disadvantages, the schools have continued to make a steady progress, speaking well for the capability and fidelity of the teachers.

Much valuable service has been rendered, by those gentlemen and ladies of Westboro', who have, during the year, so faithfully labored as teachers in our "Sabbath School," and we trust their labors have not been in vain, but will prove of incalculable good to our youthful charge, whom, with so much self-denying effort, they have untiringly sought to benefit. May these efforts of theirs prove to themselves as "bread cast upon the waters;" and to our charge, as the "good seed" which fell upon "good ground." Many thanks are due them.

The obligations to those friends whose kindness in furnishing, gratuitously, valuable books and papers, which so much interest and profit our increasing family, still continue. Among these, we especially mention our indebtedness to Hon. John Davis for valuable public documents, and to the publishers of the following journals or periodicals, which have been regularly received:—American Traveller, Olive Branch, Youth's Companion, Massachusetts Spy, Cataract, National Ægis, Lowell American, Cambridge Chronicle, Essex County Mercury, Essex County Freeman, Salem Register, Prisoner's Friend, Assistant to the Ministry at Large, Massachusetts Teacher, Working Farmer, and Pennsylvania Journal of Prison Discipline, and the New York Phrenological and Water Cure Journal.

In conclusion, permit me to add, that in entering upon my duties here, I felt that I was entering an institution which had, from its commencement, been not only prospered, but greatly blessed, just on the eve of opening itself to the State in its enlarged capacity, reaching forth its arms, and inviting

within its widened enclosures her misguided and erring boys, and an institution too, looked upon with the deepest interest, by many, and those the most honored and important citizens of a State noted for the liberality of its provisions for every class of its unfortunate inhabitants, especially those in the hopeful period of life.

Distrustful of my own abilities, and fearful that I could not satisfy the reasonable expectations of a community which had erected such a noble institution, and would look forward with so much interest to its future usefulness and success, I never should have taken upon myself a charge so full of importance, had it not been for the repeated assurances you gave me of your undivided coöperation, and the implicit confidence I imposed in your wisdom, judgment and discretion, which I could but trust would enable me to accomplish, in a degree at least, the design of this "noble charity," and continue, if not increase its usefulness, making it still an honor and ornament to the State, and through the blessing of an "all-wise Providence," a means of leading many "ready to perish," to become useful, happy and Christian citizens, who, in their turn, will hand down to others who shall come after them, the great blessings of which they once were the recipients.

If I have, during the short period of my labors here, succeeded in any degree, I owe it mainly to your sympathy and the sympathies of those connected with me, and the deep interest you and they have taken in my labors.

To you, gentlemen, for your kind aid and advice, and to all connected with me, for their fidelity and exertions, I would not fail to express my sincere gratitude and thanks, and would earnestly entreat "Our Heavenly Father" that his blessing may so crown our labors, as to abundantly reward these efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES M. TALCOTT, *Superintendent.*

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, }
Westboro', Nov. 30, 1853. }

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees, the Chaplain respectfully submits his Fourth Annual Report.

GENTLEMEN:—It is now a little more than five years since this institution was opened for the reception of inmates. We enter, in some sense, upon a new era in its existence. The pressing demand for more liberal accommodations, duly considered by you, and made known to the Legislature, has resulted in a convenient and substantial enlargement. The capacity of the building is increased two-fold. Its advantages are now extended to about five hundred and fifty youth, who have either been so unfortunate as to be reared amid influences adverse to the formation of correct moral character, or so perverse as to reject wholesome parental instruction and restraint, to enter upon a career of waywardness and crime. Admissions are of almost daily occurrence; the number is gradually increasing, and it is probable that the building will be fully occupied before the close of another year. While we may well deplore the necessity for enlarged accommodations, we must approve the wisdom and benevolence of the State, in making so ample provision for the reclamation and education of those who, in all probability, would become a pest to society without its protective and fostering care.

The Table headed "Supposed causes of Crime," and for the last three years published in the Report of the Superintendent, has been transferred to the Chaplain, on the supposition that the statements which it contains more appropriately belong to his Report, and that he, from the relation which he sustains to the inmates, is better able to acquaint himself with their social

and moral condition. These facts have been gathered from the boys themselves, and from such other sources as entitle them to credit. It is not claimed that they are in every respect perfectly reliable, but it is certain that they do not present a picture too deeply shaded.

It has been the custom to obtain from the boy, as soon as practicable after his admission, an account of his family, and his own past history. To the record then made, is added, from time to time, any important information derived from other sources. The results of these investigations for the past and previous years, are embodied in the following Tables. Any discrepancies between these and former statistics, will be explained by the fact that they have been published in successive reports as originally made. Additional information, subsequently received, has imposed modifications in a number of instances, and each individual case has recently been subjected to revision. Some errors have also been detected and rectified.

Those facts which relate to parentage and home influences, have been separated from those which pertain more immediately to the boys themselves. They are exhibited in the annexed statement.

	1853.	Previously.	Total.
Whole number received,	262	724	986
Have lost father,	51	220	271
“ “ mother,	37	102	139
“ “ both parents,	20	65	85
“ fathers without occupation,	98	300	398
“ “ who are intemperate,	68	236	304
“ mothers “ “	1	13	14
“ parents who are both intemperate,	26	97	123
“ “ whose example is otherwise morally pernicious,	126	417	543
“ or have had, one or more members of their families in penal or reformatory institutions,	66	189	255

Parents whose example is otherwise morally pernicious, embraces those who do not observe the Sabbath, are untruthful, profane or dishonest. In many instances they are fathers,

abusive to their families; driving wife and children from wretched homes; mothers who have trained their offspring to theft, or instilled into their susceptible minds corrupt and vicious influences.

As might be expected as the result of such home influences, many have practised in youth the lessons thus taught them in early childhood. Hence their moral condition when committed, as disclosed in the following Table:—

	1853.	Previously.	Total.
Were mostly idle previous to admission,	198	670	868
“ untruthful,	245	690	935
“ profane in language,	229	643	872
“ obscene “	218	556	774
“ truants,	195	651	846
“ Sabbath-breakers,	182	594	776
Had visited improper places of amusement,	153	517	670
“ used tobacco,	110	385	495
“ drank ardent spirits, most of them to intoxication,	63	275	338
“ slept out at night, in stables, sheds, boxes, and similar places,	127	433	560
“ been previously arrested, once,	56	155	211
“ “ “ twice,	11	61	72
“ “ “ three times,	8	30	38
“ “ “ four times,	5	13	18
“ “ “ five times, or more,	5	41	46
Whole number previously arrested,	85	300	385
Had been in prisons, houses of detention, or reformatory schools,	65	238	303

The statement relative to previous arrests, covers those cases where fines have been imposed or compromises effected, which have resulted in release.

The average period of delinquency previous to admission, for the past five years, is about two and one-seventh years.

It is a significant fact that seven hundred and fifty-three are found to have had a companionship with each other, more or less intimate, before their commitment. The companionship of the remainder has been almost invariably bad.

Four hundred and thirty-five have been committed on the complaint of their parents, or of some one of their relatives, or at their request.

The means heretofore relied on for moral and religious renovation have been employed the past year; and it is with pleasure that we are able to speak of increased facilities for their future prosecution.

The new chapel furnishes a pleasing contrast to the old one in many important respects. It is sufficiently large to accommodate any number of boys that may ever be in the institution at any one time, heated by a furnace, well ventilated, lighted with large windows supplied with blinds, furnished with comfortable settees convenient for the arrangement of the classes in the Sabbath School, is easy of access from both departments, and pleasant and commodious as a whole. It was opened for the first time for religious worship on the last Sabbath in October; and has been regularly occupied since for Divine Service on the Sabbath, and the exercises of the Sabbath School, and more recently for the daily devotional exercises.

So many youth, tainted with vice and crime, drawn together on the Sabbath for the worship of God, is an impressive and affecting sight. We irresistibly contrast their past with their present observance of the day. With most of them it has been spent in recreation and sin. *Very* few have been regular church-goers. It is not strange, therefore, that with some, the worship of God, if not positively irksome, is lightly esteemed; but the general interest with which all engage in the services of the chapel is encouraging:—

“ At once they sing, at once they pray,
They hear of Heaven and learn the way;”

and if we look no farther than to this recognition of the day as of Divine appointment, and to the respect thus inspired for the institutions of religion, we may believe that most of them will go forth to observe the Sabbath elsewhere, as they are taught to observe it here. So far as we have been able to learn, this is generally true of those who have left us and are doing well in other respects. The good seed has vegetated, and is gradually taking root. In some, to the praise of God, it has already sprung up, and is bringing forth fruit in Christian character.

The Sabbath School continues to be an indispensable auxil-

iary in carrying forward this great work. The general neglect of this means of grace previous to admission, alluded to in former reports, finds a confirmation in those who have been committed the past year, as will be seen by the following statement:—

Number received,	262
Have been regular in their attendance,	27
Irregular in their attendance,	194
Were never connected with a Sabbath School, . .	41

The whole number of verses of Scripture committed to memory in the Sabbath School the past year, is .	148,603
The average to a pupil for the year, is about . . .	550
The average to a pupil for each Sabbath, is about .	11

We should do injustice to those who have voluntarily given their services as teachers, to pass over in silence, in this connection, their punctuality and faithfulness. In this work of charity they have the two-fold blessing promised, and receive our thanks. May the acquaintance so pleasantly begun with their pupils here, be perfected in a sinless and peaceful hereafter.

As formerly, frequent and almost daily personal interviews have been had with the boys, often at their own request. Some ask trifling favors; others seek advice; while a few come to make inquiries with reference to the "way of life." An opportunity is thus presented to impress upon all the duties which they owe to themselves, to those who are placed over them as guides and instructors, to society at large, and to their God. The endeavor has been to awaken confidence in the discipline and restraint to which they are subjected, and to inspire virtuous and ennobling thoughts, and such expectations with reference to the future, as may be realized with honest effort and the blessing of approving Heaven. Any advice given or favor bestowed, has always been respectfully and gratefully received; and experience here, as elsewhere, has shown that this kind of effort, as a reformatory means, is hardly second to any that can be employed in the prosecution of this work.

While we should always be cautious in speaking of positive results, it may probably be said with perfect safety, from our knowledge of those who have gone forth, that full one-half give promise of becoming useful citizens.

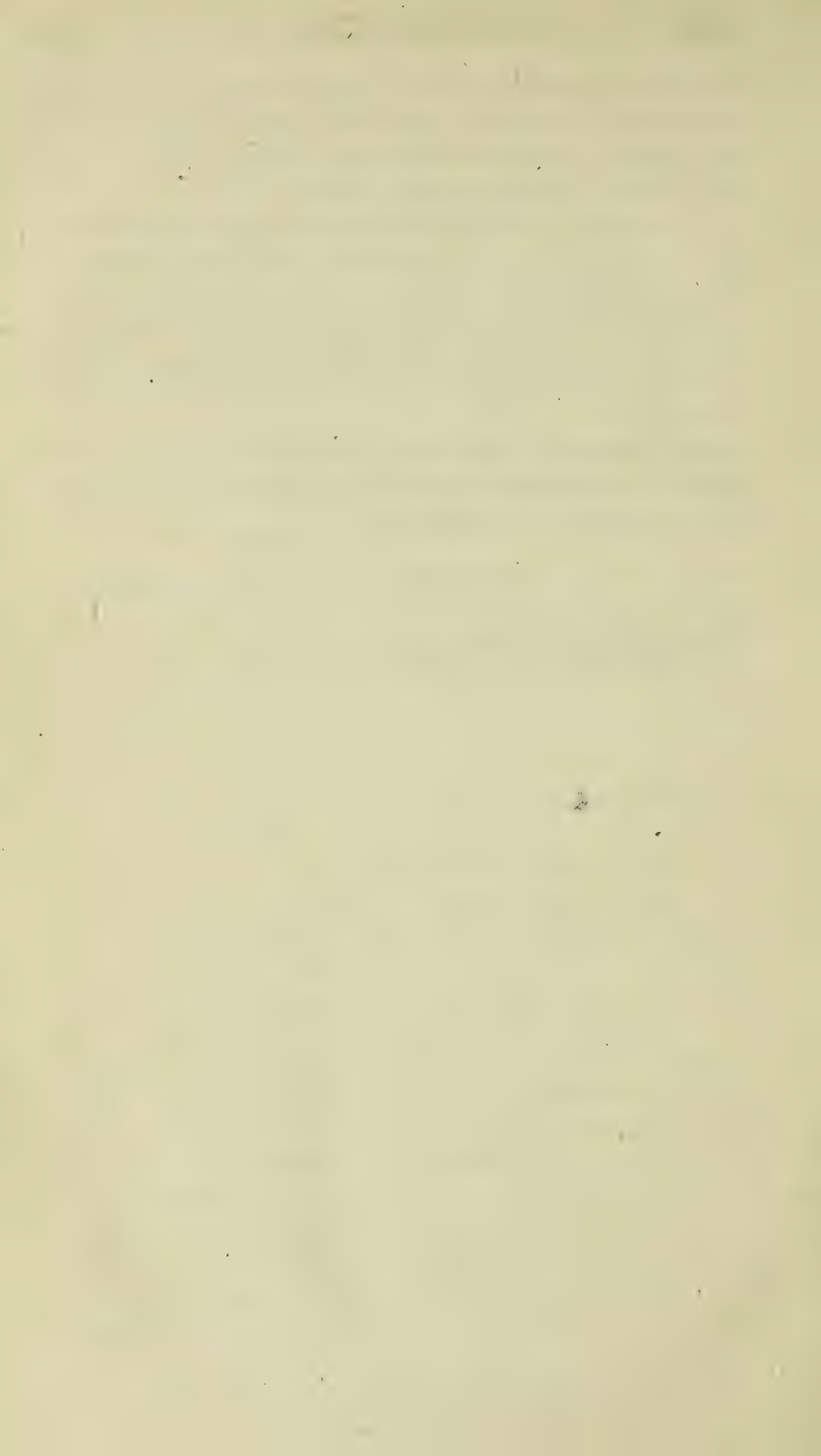
Of those who have left us, and have not done well, seventy are known to have been convicted of crime and returned to us, or committed to similar institutions, or to prisons.

Our gratitude is due to the Giver of every good and perfect gift, that we have enjoyed such general prosperity, and that we have been visited with sickness and death in so few instances.

To the officers generally, my thanks are due for favors received, but more especially to the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent, and the Steward.

P. LINCOLN CUSHING, *Chaplain.*

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, }
Westboro', Nov. 30, 1853. }



APPENDIX.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM MASTERS, RELATIVE TO BOYS WHO HAVE BEEN APPRENTICED.

December 2, 1852.

This note will inform you that Joseph's health and character are both good, and his deportment quite as good as we expected.

December 5, 1852.

According to agreement, I write to inform you that B.'s health is good, and he is a good boy. He attends meeting and school regularly, and is very contented.

December 30, 1852.

William is doing very well—has no inclination to mix with bad company—goes to meeting regularly, and is, I think, in a fair way to become a good and useful man.

December 31, 1852.

This is to inform you that Edward is a good boy; he is improving fast, and sends his respects to you and all the officers.

February 9, 1853.

I am much pleased with David; he is a *fine boy*, and I hope to prove worthy of the trust of leading him through the strong temptations of youth to useful manhood. He is uncommonly ingenious, and will make a *first-rate mechanic*. He appears quite well satisfied with his home, and thanks you for your regards, per my letters.

February 10, 1853.

In writing to you of Francis, it gives me great pleasure to say that he is a good boy. I find him trusty, kind, obedient, and industrious. I have no fault to find with him.

I have endeavored to keep him from bad influences abroad, and I think he improves.

He attends meeting and the Sabbath School regularly; also, the day school, and gets along well with his studies, especially his arithmetic.

February 12, 1853.

According to promise, I write you a few lines respecting Gilbert.

While living with me he has been a good boy, and bids fair to continue so. He attends school, and his teacher speaks well of his proficiency in his studies.

He is, on the whole, a good specimen of a good boy, and speaks of what was done for him at the Reform School, with much gratitude.

February 15, 1853.

The boy I took from your institution is making fair progress in his employment; is obedient and well-behaved; is in good health, and has been. He has attended school six months the past year, and has good opportunity for moral and religious improvement.

February 23, 1853.

J.'s conduct is very good—much better than I expected. I have had no occasion to fault him but once since he has been with me. I also think him a very smart boy to work. He has earned, after doing his stint, about two dollars, during the last three weeks. His health is very good.

February 26, 1853.

I am happy to say that James is a very good boy, and has been while with me. He is very constant at his work; also, at school. I would be very much obliged if you could let me have another as good a boy.

March 2, 1853.

David seems to be much pleased with us. This week he has been led to rejoice in the Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, as his Redeemer. He speaks highly of you as one of his best friends.

March 3, 1853.

Charles is doing very well, and seems to like his situation.

March 21, 1853.

I like William very well, and he is a very good boy. He likes his work, and succeeds in it very well indeed.

March 28, 1853.

Richard has enjoyed good health, and makes rapid progress in his business. He has been a constant attendant on Sabbath and evening meeting, and the Sabbath School, and has attended the day school through the winter, and was called, by his teacher, one of the best scholars. I think him a very good boy, and am very much obliged to you for sending me such an one.

May 18, 1853.

Humphrey is still living with me,—is a smart, healthy boy, and as good a boy as I could expect.

May 30, 1853.

John seems to like his place and his business, and has, in every respect, answered my expectations. He made good improvement in his studies last winter; attends meeting and Sabbath School.

June 8, 1853.

I have to say of John, that his health is good, but he is not improving in behavior so fast as I could wish, still, I hope, as he grows older, he will grow better.

September 13, 1853.

Lorenzo remains with me yet, and is well. His habits are regular; he takes much interest in his work, and performs it with much taste. He does not like his books so well as he ought. Perhaps some suggestions from you might be profitable to him.

September 10, 1853.

I like George very much indeed. He will make me a good boy. He is prompt to the mark.

October 27, 1853.

It is with pleasure I speak of M.'s character. He seems to be improving. The evil which prevailed when your chaplain was here, seems to be disappearing, and I trust he will become an honest, truthful man. His health is good; he likes his trade, and is getting along very well. He will go to school the coming winter.

November 22, 1853.

Matthew is well, and has been a good boy. He seems well satisfied with his employment; will attend school through the winter. He does not observe the Sabbath as he ought, or attend church. Otherwise, he manages himself well, and seems contented.

November 29, 1853.

I take pleasure in writing you concerning Edward. He is a very good boy, and takes hold of his work well, and seems very contented. He loves to attend meeting and the Sabbath School. He expects to attend the day school after two or three weeks.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM BOYS.

February 12, 1853.

Dear Friend :—I promised to write you, and let you know how I am getting along. I get along very well, and like both my place and master. I felt very lonesome at first, but I don't now. I go to meeting every Sabbath, and to Sabbath School. I think this a very pleasant place, and think I shall enjoy myself well.

I have not made many acquaintances, and try to follow, as nearly as possible, the kind instructions of your letter. I sometimes find it very hard work to curb my temper, but, as yet, succeed pretty well.

I left a book at the school, entitled "Western Wilds," and would be glad to have you send it to me, as it is a gift from my sister. I feel very glad that I was so fortunate in getting a place. I like my place, my master, and my trade very much. Please give my love to all, and accept my thanks for what has been done for me. From yours, truly.

To WM. R. LINCOLN, Esq.

February 15, 1853.

Dear Sir :—I write to inform you that I have recovered my health, and am getting along well. I was going to write to you before, but did not. I go to school every day, and advance very much. When I reached home, I found the folks well. I hope you will get a place for me to learn a trade, so that I shall not have to return to the institution again. I should like to live with Mr. ———. I am enticed a good deal, but do not go astray. I have resolved to be a good boy, and think I shall succeed. If you are willing, I should like to write to some of the boys. From your scholar.

To SUPERINTENDENT, etc.

March 1, 1853.

My Dear Friend:—Since I left the institution, there has been a great change wrought in my mind. I wrote a few lines to the Superintendent, and enclosed it in the envelope with my master's letter. In that I told him I was trying to be a Christian; and since, I hope I have found peace in my Saviour. I go to prayer-meeting once every week. Last Sabbath we had a very fine meeting indeed; in the evening it seemed like a little heaven below, and will long be remembered by me, for it was there that I became convicted of sin, of righteousness, and of a judgment to come. My master's mother introduced me to the minister, who talked to me of God's love, and said he was about my size when he found peace in believing. When going home I felt very uneasy, and upon getting there, I took my Bible and read the fifty-first Psalm, and went out and wept bitterly. Before going to bed, I prayed earnestly, but did not feel comforted. I could not sleep much, so I got up before four o'clock, and went out into the shop and prayed. I tried to work, but could not, and took a short walk, to meditate. The whole family had noticed my struggle, and my master asked me if I would like to have a family prayer-meeting. I told him I wanted one very much. After breakfast, they all assembled, and every one prayed for me—six in number; and then I prayed for myself, and O, such happiness as I have felt since!

How I thank the individual that put that institution into the mind of the Legislature! and I thank God for raising up such benevolent persons as they were. I thank you, too, very much, for your kind advice to me at parting, and Mr. Lincoln, for getting me so good a place. James and John are here. John goes to the same place of worship that I do. He has got a very good place, and I hope will be a very good boy.

I want you to write me. Give my respects to your wife, and all the officers of the institution.

I noticed in your Report, you spoke of receiving visits from young Nicodemuses. I was one; and the advice which I then received was working for me a crown of glory; for I think it tended a great deal to soften my heart. I wish your prayers and your advice. From your affectionate pupil.

REV. P. L. CUSHING.

April 21, 1853.

Dear Sir:—As my master is writing you, I thought I would pen a line and send with his, and let you know how I am at present. I have got along well since I came up here, and hope to hereafter. It is a cold place in winter, but in summer it is the pleasantest place I ever saw. I go to school, and study Adams's Arithmetic, Morse's Geography, and Wells's Grammar, and think I am doing pretty good justice to them all. There are several good families up here, who would like to take boys, and if you have good ones to spare, I would like to have you send them, as I think this a good place. I should like to come down and see you again but I can't this year. I hope you will write to me. Very respectfully yours.

J. M. TALCOTT.

May 1, 1853.

Dear Sir:—I arrived here safely, and am now attending school. It seemed very hard for the first two or three days, but since then it seems quite pleasant. My health is good, and I hope yours is the same.

One young man here, since I was down, has gone the way of all the earth. He

was one of those who, last winter, became the follower of the blessed Saviour, and we hope he is now in Heaven. He died about two weeks since. I went to see him before his death, and believe he was prepared to meet his end. It makes me feel more the wish to live to God and his glory.

Please remember me to all the officers, and the boys. Please write me often, as I like to hear from you. I am, most truly, your obedient servant.

To W. R. LINCOLN, Esq.

July 7, 1853.

My Dear Friend :—I write to you, to let you know how I am getting along. I have a good man to work for, who is very kind to me, and I am going right along with my trade. I often look over the letter that was given me on my departure from the school, and think of its advice; and, Sir, I shall always look to you for advice, and hope to be, if I live, able to enter business for myself, honorably. I think if it had not been for the Reform School, I never should have been of any use to myself or any one else. But now I have made up my mind that I will be honest and upright in all my doings, and you may depend upon it I will. From one of your scholars.

J. M. TALCOTT, Esq.

November, 1853.

My Dear Friends :—Having considerable leisure time this evening, I thought I would write you a few lines, to inform you of my present situation.

Some time has elapsed since I saw you. I left Westboro' the 18th of July, and went to Nantucket, and stayed there till about the middle of September—I am sorry to say, doing nothing; and thinking it about time to be doing something, and hearing of a good opportunity to learn a tinman's trade, and having a peculiar taste for that business, I thought I would try and see what I could do at it. I left Nantucket September 6th, and arrived at M—— September 11th—remaining in New Bedford one night. I have worked about six weeks, and can make a few things—such as cups, flour-scoops, dippers, pans, and small oil-cans. It was rather hard, at first, to get my hand in, but after a while I got used to it. It is not much like office-work or farming.

I thought M—— was a quiet place, but it is not so. I find there is a great deal of drunkenness here. At this very moment there is a woman in the lockup for being intoxicated and fighting. Rum is at the root of most of these fights. It gives me joy to think I was never under its influence, and I hope I never shall have occasion to touch it.

Thanksgiving is fast approaching—a day that will be hailed by many happy voices. I should like to be in Westboro' on that day, in order to attend the divine services at the State Reform School, and see the folks. I shall try to make you a visit soon. It is some time since I was there, but I shall never forget the institution or its officers. It is a school worthy of its name.

I should like to have you write me as soon as you can, and let me know how you all are. Give my respects to Mrs. C., and to all the officers. As it is getting late, and not having any more time, I must bring my letter to a close by bidding you farewell. Your humble servant.

REV. P. L. CUSHING, Chaplain S. R. S.

OFFICERS.

TRUSTEES.

THOMAS A. GREENE.	JOSIAH B. FRENCH.
EDWARD B. BIGELOW.	GEORGE H. KUHN.
DANIEL H. FORBES.	JOHN H. W. PAGE.
HARVEY DODGE.	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

GEORGE H. KUHN.	DANIEL H. FORBES.
EDWARD B. BIGELOW.	

SUPERINTENDENT.

JAMES M. TALCOTT.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT.

ORVILLE K. HUTCHINSON.

MATRON.

AMANDA S. TALCOTT.

CHAPLAIN.

REV. P. LINCOLN CUSHING.

STEWARD.

MOSES O. AYER.

FARMER.

SAMUEL N. WHITE.

TEACHERS.

MERRITT L. WHITE.	EMERY FAY.
WINSLOW ROBERTS.	MRS. CUSHING.
MRS. ROBERTS.	

OVERSEERS OF WORKSHOPS.

E. P. HAYWARD.	FREDERICK MORRISON.
----------------	---------------------

BAKER.

ALBERT J. NEWHALL.

LAUNDRESS.

MRS. PAIGE.

SEAMSTRESSES.

MISS PALMER.	MISS HODGES.
MRS. HAYWARD.	

EIGHTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE TRUSTEES
OF THE
STATE REFORM SCHOOL,
AT WESTBOROUGH,
TOGETHER WITH
THE ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOSTON:
WILLIAM WHITE, PRINTER TO THE STATE.
1855.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

The Trustees of the State Reform School respectfully present to the Governor and Council their Eighth Annual Report of the condition of the Institution for the year ending November 30, 1854.

The reports of the Superintendent and Chaplain accompanying this are full and explicit, and present, as the Trustees believe, reliable information on the subjects they embrace.

Besides several partial examinations in the course of the year by individual members of the Board of Trustees, a very thorough examination of all the schools, eight in number, was made in the month of June, by a committee appointed for the purpose, when they were found to be in very good condition, giving evidence of continued fidelity and diligence on the part of teachers and pupils.

The manner of conducting the business of the Institution referred to in the last Report, as having been adopted in the spring of the year eighteen hundred and fifty-three, has been continued with the favorable results which had been anticipated. It is believed that economy is promoted, and that the moral interests of the boys are advanced, by it.

The Trustees are gratified in being able to state, that the improvements in ventilating and warming the school-rooms and dormitories, and the changes in the general economy of the Institution, adopted with a view to promoting a better state of health among the boys, which were mentioned in their last Report, have thus far been attended with results fully jus-

tifying the confidence then expressed in their efficiency to the end proposed. It will be seen, by reference to the Report of the attending physician, that there has been a very small amount of sickness among the boys during the year, and that but one death has occurred for eighteen months.

The employment of the boys is always a subject of deep interest, not alone on account of the pecuniary advantage to be derived from their labors, but equally, and even more so, because of the benefits that may be expected to result to them individually, from habits of industry likely to be induced by constant occupation during the hours devoted to work. Owing to the general suspension of the business of manufacturing shoes in those departments of it in which hitherto a large portion of the boys has been employed, the returns for their labor in the stitching shop, for three months past, have been much reduced.

Thus far, efforts to obtain employment in other branches of business have not been successful. The boys in this shop have been put to light work, rather as a protection from the evils of idleness than with any expectation of profit. At this time, few new enterprises are undertaken, and the Trustees fear they may be obliged to continue to employ them as at present, until a revival shall take place in the business to which they have been accustomed.

Under authority of an Act of the Legislature, approved the 27th of February last, the Trustees, near the close of the month of March, placed under the charge of the State Board of Agriculture, for the purposes mentioned in said Act, the lands owned by the Commonwealth and connected with this Institution, reserving only such part of them in the immediate vicinity of the main building as, with the erections thereon, were deemed necessary for the use of the School. Simultaneously with this transfer of the land, and as incidental to it, the stock of cattle, produce and farming utensils then on hand, was also delivered to the Board of Agriculture. By this arrangement, the Trustees have been relieved of the care and superintendence of the Farm since the first of April, and they have no reason to doubt that the business of the two Boards may be conducted advantageously under it, and the main objects of the Legislature in their establishment be accomplished

as fully and beneficially as by any other means. The operations on the Farm, thus far, have not furnished opportunities for employing boys to the extent desired by the Trustees, but it is understood that the Board of Agriculture will make their future arrangements with a view to this important object.

By the Treasurer's statement, it appears that the expenses of the year have exceeded the estimate and appropriation by the sum of six thousand seven hundred and thirty-nine dollars and fifty cents. The well-known fact that the necessities of life, particularly food and fuel, have borne extreme high prices throughout the year, will, perhaps, sufficiently account for this; but, in this connection, it should also be borne in mind that personal property, to the amount of upwards of four thousand dollars, has been transferred to the State Board of Agriculture; that the expenses attending the management of the Farm, four months from the first of December, including those preparatory to the operations of the spring and summer, were a charge upon the Institution, for which but partial returns were realized, the Farm having passed from the control of the Trustees on the first of April; and that, after this date, all the products of the Farm, consumed by the inmates of the School, have been furnished to it at the prices current in Westborough, which include, not only the actual cost of cultivation, but also rent, or interest on the capital employed, and the profit of the farmer.

The mode of payment from the State Treasury, of the sums intended for the use of the Institution, by monthly instalments, adopted by the Legislature at its last session, at the suggestion of this Board, has been found to operate favorably. It leaves the funds of the Commonwealth in the care and keeping of its proper and responsible officer until they are needed for the purpose to which they have been appropriated, and relieves the Treasurer of the Institution from the hazards attending the custody of large sums of money.

To meet the expenses of the ensuing year, we think the sum of forty-three thousand dollars will be required, and submit the following estimate:—

Provision and clothing for 560 boys, at \$45 each,	\$25,200 00
Salaries, wages and support of officers, . . .	12,000.00

Fuel, lights and current expenses,	\$8,000 00
Repairs and incidental expenses,	3,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$48,200 00
Deduct estimated receipts for labor of boys, . .	5,200 00
	<hr/>
	\$43,000 00
Add for bills now due and unpaid,	6,700 00
	<hr/>
	\$49,700 00

This estimate is based upon the present high prices of the principal articles of consumption. Should any material decline in these prices take place, and become permanent, during the year, it is not doubted that the expenditures will fall below the amount now deemed to be required; in which case no more money will be drawn from the Treasury than shall be found to be necessary; and should there be a revival of business, an amount exceeding that estimated may be expected to be realized from the labor of the boys.

In the decease of our late associate, Daniel H. Forbes, we notice the first instance of the death of a Trustee while in office. Having his residence in Westborough, he was called upon more frequently than either of his associates for advice and direction on matters pertaining to the Institution. It is but justice to say that he responded willingly to these calls; and we cheerfully bear testimony to the wisdom of his counsels, and to his promptness and fidelity in discharging the duties devolving upon him. He has gone to his reward. May his example, so far as it was consistent with the teachings of his Master and our Master, have its due influence in quickening our efforts faithfully to fulfil the obligations of this sacred trust.

Evidence is constantly brought to the notice of the Trustees, of the happy effects produced on many individuals by the moral and intellectual training and religious instruction received at the School, alike vindicating the wisdom of its founders, and pointing out the duty of their successors. To what extent we are indebted for these gratifying results to the labors of those kind and disinterested friends, the Sabbath School teachers, who, regardless of winter's cold and summer's heat,

visit the Institution weekly, to pour into willing ears and waiting hearts beautiful lessons of divine wisdom and heavenly love, it is impossible to say. We deem the value of these services beyond estimate. Nor can we but feebly express our obligations and our gratitude to those by whom they are rendered. Long may they be continued to coöperate with the spirit of generous emulation in the good work committed to them, animating the officers and teachers to whom is intrusted the immediate charge of the Institution in its various departments.

From such beneficent agencies, we may safely anticipate increasing success in winning back to the green pastures and still waters of virtue, usefulness and peace, the wandering lambs of the Redeemer's flock.

EDWARD B. BIGELOW.
GEORGE H. KUHN.
JOHN H. W. PAGE.
G. HOWLAND SHAW.
HARVEY DODGE.
THOMAS A. GREENE.
HENRY W. CUSHMAN.

WESTBOROUGH, November 30, 1854.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

*To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents the Eighth Annual Report.

The Treasurer charges himself from December 1, 1853, to November 30, 1854, inclusive, as follows :—

For amount received from the late Treasurer,	\$190 63
For amount received from the State Treasury,	42,200 00
For amount of boys' labor, including that performed for the Board of Agriculture, and about \$1,500 earned, but not yet due,	6,753 06
For board of farmers,	659 11
For rent of houses,	226 73
For sundries,	1,401 98
	<u>\$51,431 51</u>

He has paid for bills due and unpaid 30th of November, 1853, \$6,324 42

And states the expenses of the year as follows :—

Hospital expenses,	\$59 09
Furniture and bedding,	2,967 04
Fuel and lights,	4,536 86
Provisions and groceries,	17,180 19
Clothing,	5,989 74
Transportation,	556 62
General improvement and repairs, in- cluding cost of a house erected for the accommodation of persons con-	

ned with the employment of the	
boys,	\$7,203 46
Less income of the Lyman	
Fund, appropriated by vote	
of Trustees,	1,008 00
	<hr/>
	\$6,195 46
Farming tools, stock, and labor on farm,	1,605 60
Postage,	44 57
Salaries and wages,	9,378 86
School books and stationery,	569 04
Tools, leather, and materials for shoe	
shop,	844 33
Trustees' expenses,	416 50
Miscellaneous,	1,502 69
	<hr/>
	\$51,846 59

Making a total of payments and expenses of \$58,171 01
 And exceeding the means provided by the sum of six thousand
 seven hundred and thirty-nine dollars and fifty cents, which
 sum is now due to sundry persons, whose bills for articles
 furnished remain unpaid.

Tools and Materials for the Shoe Shop, include

Leather,	\$78 15
Leather, 1,568 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	392 31
Binding and lining,	29 28
Pegs, tacks, wax, &c.,	4 49
Thread, 278 pounds,	186 18
Tools,	102 55
Making shoes, 411 pairs,	51 37
	<hr/>
	\$844 33

General Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials on general repairs,	\$2,020 87
Iron work,	186 02
Steam-boiler, engine, and fixtures for forcing water	
from the pond to the house, and for sawing and	
grinding,	1,679 00

Painting, whitewashing, brushes, &c.,	\$584 17
Locks, keys, and door handles,	229 98
Glass and glazing,	35 51
Pumps and lead pipe,	78 56
Paper hangings,	6 37
Repairing slating,	72 03
Carpenters' tools,	12 04
Belting,	74 12
Repairs on houses rented,	101 30
Lightning rods,	15 75
Surveying grounds near the house,	135 80
Grading,	369 15
Digging and stoning well,	142 20
J. Bellows, for labor and materials for house,	868 13
Labor and materials furnished for same,	288 34
Grading and fencing,	81 87
Moving barn, fitting up stables and store rooms,	222 25
	<hr/>
	\$7,203 46

Books, Stationery, and Printing, include

School books,	\$410 35
Blank books,	23 24
Slates, 30 dozen,	29 64
Writing books, paper, pens, ink, &c.,	98 31
Evening Traveller,	5 00
New England Farmer,	2 00
Massachusetts Teacher,	0 50
	<hr/>
	\$569 04

Furniture and Bedding, include

Ticking, 1,601 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	\$198 83
Sheeting, 2,610 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	233 13
Table linen and crash, 73 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	17 37
Dimity and lawn, 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	14 69
Diaper for spreads, 423 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	75 09
Table covers, 2, \$5.50; Sofa, \$40,	45 50
Mattresses and pillows, 6,	84 75
Feather beds and pillows, 3,	50 00

Bedsteads, 2,	\$10 00
Blankets, 211,	301 56
Stools and pedestals for dining room,	125 00
Bureaus, 3 ; chairs, 19 ; and table, 1,	62 48
Mirrors, 12,	5 62
Prints and batting,	295 51
Thread, 33 pounds,	18 29
Curled hair for pillows, 203 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	73 26
Straw for beds, 19,508 pounds,	86 21
Carpeting, 148 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	124 43
Mats, 10,	5 09
Pails, 84,	22 88
Tubs, and other wooden ware,	28 73
Steam washing machine,	150 00
Knives and forks,	35 40
Spoons, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ gross,	30 20
Crockery,	161 72
Glass and earthen ware,	14 05
Brooms and brushes,	71 47
Tin, copper, and iron ware,	104 15
Lanterns and lamps,	122 58
Chimneys and shades, 57 dozen,	58 25
Baskets, 10—\$10.29 ; coal riddles, 10—\$7.50,	17 79
Shears, \$5 ; bells, 2—\$2.57,	7 57
Stoves, funnel, &c.,	272 34
Thermometers, \$9 ; sundries, \$34.10,	43 10

\$2,967 04

Clothing, includes

Satinets, 6,188 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	\$3,334 04
Denims, 4,358 yards,	528 24
Woollen cloth, 312 yards,	98 44
Cotton cloth, 4,349 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	388 44
Cotton flannel, 662 yards,	62 89
Coats, 2 ; vest, 1,	15 45
Silicia, 143 yards,	12 89
Caps and visors,	57 01
Senit hats, 20 dozen,	38 00
Thread, 137 pounds,	125 23

Vesting, 104 yards,	\$19 00
Needles, pins, and thimbles,	27 32
Shears and scissors,	2 90
Buttons, 266 gross,	47 34
Socks, 57 dozen,	181 59
Yarn, 104 pounds,	91 90
Boots, 58 pairs,	119 83
Shoes, 841 pairs,	798 66
Cravats, 6 dozen ; gloves, 2 pairs,	8 42
Combs, 25 gross,	18 90
Wax and other small articles,	13 25
	<hr/>
	\$5,989 74

Provisions and Groceries, include

Flour, 756 barrels,	\$7,066 84
Rye meal, 157 bushels,	191 55
Indian meal, 557 bushels,	544 51
Buckwheat, 250 pounds,	11 81
Malt, 200 pounds,	6 75
Crackers,	54 98
Beef, 21,427 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	1,677 08
Pork, 10,091 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	714 10
Ham, 588 pounds,	70 73
Mutton, 4,673 pounds,	289 50
Veal, 1,966 pounds,	164 77
Tripe, 327 pounds,	28 96
Fish, 8,222 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	287 80
Poultry, 173 pounds,	24 00
Potatoes, 1,555 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels,	918 88
Beans and peas, 136 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels,	181 99
Rice, 10,596 pounds,	972 83
Salt, 86 bushels, and 68 bags fine,	59 75
Sugar, 3,943 pounds,	279 17
Coffee, 427 pounds,	49 26
Tea, 167 pounds,	69 32
Chocolate, 1,224 pounds,	168 22
Molasses, 3,839 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons,	880 63
Butter, 2,658 pounds,	562 22
Cheese, 282 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	28 94

Saleratus, 279 pounds,	\$13 95
Lard, 562 pounds,	58 90
Soap, 3,406 pounds,	196 75
Potash, 611 pounds; soda, 480 pounds,	72 25
Tapioca, \$2.53; sago, \$10.92,	13 45
Eggs, 56 dozen,	12 34
Hops, 115 pounds,	48 24
Apples, 81 barrels,	101 21
Dried apples, 195 pounds,	16 66
Cream tartar, 50 pounds,	16 15
Cassia, ground, 25 pounds,	8 91
Fruit, raisins, &c.,	55 91
Starch, 93 pounds; indigo, 2 pounds,	8 94
Ginger, pepper, and other small groceries,	23 59
Milk, 6,489½ gallons,	779 34
Strawberries,	18 65
Raspberries,	24 90
Quinces, 6 bushels,	3 00
Peaches, pears, and other fruit from the garden,	40 82
Parsnips, 51 bushels,	12 75
Carrots, 200 bushels,	50 00
Turnips, 100½ bushels,	20 32
Beets, 52½ bushels,	13 12
Onions, 45 bushels,	34 12
Tomatoes, 30½ bushels,	13 99
Pumpkins, 310,	7 80
Winter squashes, 3,075 pounds,	46 12
Cabbages, 2,115,	127 72
Cucumbers, and other garden vegetables,	35 70
	<hr/>
	\$17,180 19

Farming Tools, Stock, and Labor on the Farm, include

Ox cart, 1; sled, 1; yokes, 2; and hay-cutters, 2,	\$106 25
Horse,	120 00
Cows, 10,	490 29
Durham bull, 1,	50 00
Suffolk boar, 1,	15 00
Axes and helves, 6,	10 72
Crosscut saw, \$4; wood saws, 2—\$2.92,	6 92

Drag plank,	\$8 50
Grinding grain,	18 24
Garden seeds,	7 72
Hay, 1,660 pounds; straw, 4,016 pounds, . . .	32 53
Laying wall, and ploughing,	5 79
Blacksmith work,	55 18
Repairing hay scales, carts, and farming tools, .	37 99
Pasturing young cattle,	36 09
Harness, sleigh bells, and whip,	26 83
Baskets, 11,	6 17
Sleigh, 1,	25 00
Railroad freight,	1 95
Travelling expenses,	2 75
Buffalo robes, 2,	16 33
Sawing lumber,	11 40
Office table and chair,	6 50
Repairing barn and farm house,	35 30
Labor on farm,	471 62
Sundries,	53
	<hr/>
	\$1,605 60

Fuel and Lights, include

Coal, 400 tons, gross,	\$3,978 27
Charcoal,	1 92
Wood, 44 $\frac{3}{8}$ cords,	178 50
Oil, 489 gallons,	365 92
Lampwicks and wicking,	12 25
	<hr/>
	\$4,536 86

Miscellaneous, includes

Expenses in pursuing and returning elopers, .	\$37 47
Expenses in returning boys to friends, and fitting them out to sea,	62 89
Travelling expenses on business for the institu- tion,	146 28
Expenses in pursuing and returning apprentices who had left their places,	47 36

Conveying Sabbath school teachers to the institution,	\$187 50
Legislative committee,	4 00
Coffin, and expenses of funeral,	5 50
Painting and new covering wagon, repairs, harnesses, 2 whips, &c.,	96 54
Horse, \$200; wagon, \$50,	250 00
Buffalo robes, 2,	12 50
Interest and discount,	271 95
Use of seraphine,	20 00
Blacksmith work, shoeing horses, &c.,	36 98
Expense of lecturers,	7 60
Axes, 3; shovels, and other garden tools,	19 55
Grindstone, 1,	6 50
Grain for horses, 196 bushels,	189 68
Hay, 9,330 pounds,	75 97
Sundries,	24 42
	<hr/>
	\$1,502 69

HARVEY DODGE,

Treasurer S. R. School.

WESTBOROUGH, November 30, 1854.

L Y M A N F U N D .

The principal of this fund is the same as it was

November 30, 1853, \$20,000 00

Income of the Fund.

June 8. Received from the late Treasurer, . . . \$639 00

July 15. Dividends on 60 shares Boston and
 Worcester Railroad, 210 00
 On 53 shares Fitchburg Railroad, . . . 159 00

\$1,008 00

Appropriated by vote of the Trustees towards payment for a house recently erected, and accounted for in general statement.

HARVEY DODGE,
Treasurer Lyman Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, November 30, 1854.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School:—

GENTLEMEN,—I respectfully present to you the following Report, being a brief history of the progress of the Institution and its affairs during its eighth year:—

TABLE 1,

Showing the number received and the general state of the School for the year ending November 30, 1854.

Boys in School December 1, 1853,	385
“ since committed,	343
Apprentices returned by masters,	36
“ who had left their masters, arrested and returned by order of Trustees,	8
“ who had left their masters, returned voluntarily,	2
	— 46
Whole number in School during the year,	— 774
Boys discharged or apprenticed,	199
“ remanded on alternative sentences,	9
“ returned to masters,	5
“ escaped,	1
“ died,	1
	— 215
Remaining in School November 30, 1854,	559

The nine boys remanded were of tender years and very small, whose continuance here was considered inconsistent with the purposes and best interests of the Institution.

TABLE 2,

Showing the Commitments from the several Counties the past year and previously.

Counties.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable,	1	2	3
Berkshire,	8	33	41
Bristol,	23	97	120
Dukes,	—	2	2
Essex,	57	198	255
Franklin,	3	4	7
Hampden,	21	51	72
Hampshire,	4	10	14
Middlesex,	58	187	245
Nantucket,	8	1	9
Norfolk,	36	61	97
Plymouth,	6	9	15
Suffolk,	83	223	306
Worcester,	35	108	143
Total,	343	986	1,329

TABLE 3,

Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and average number for each month in the year.

Months.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Average No
December, 1853,	31	26	387.9
January, 1854,	29	5	402.1
February, "	20	12	418.
March, "	29	34	420.2
April, "	29	11	426.1
May, "	37	11	450.4
June, "	39	20	467.7
July, "	53	15	495.4
August, "	46	11	539.
September, "	28	31	547.5
October, "	14	21	544.5
November, "	34	18	552.6
Total,	389	215	5 64 —

TABLE 4,

Showing the disposal of those discharged the past year and previously.

Disposal.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Discharged by Board of Trustees, . . .	44	157	201
“ on expiration of sentence, . . .	26	46	72
Remanded on alternative sentence, . . .	9	51	60
Indented to Farmers and Gardeners, . . .	43	130	173
“ Carpenters,	5	19	24
“ Bakers,	1	3	4
“ Silver Platers,	—	6	6
“ Cabinet Makers,	2	4	6
“ Pianoforte Makers,	—	1	1
“ Shoe Tool Makers,	—	2	2
“ Mahogany Chair Makers,	—	2	2
“ Trunkmakers,	1	2	3
“ Sawmakers,	—	1	1
“ Sailmakers,	—	2	2
“ Boot and Shoe Makers,	36	127	163
“ Pump and Block Makers,	—	1	1
“ Sleighmakers,	—	1	1
“ Harness Makers,	2	1	3
“ Combmakers,	—	2	2
“ Musical Instrument Makers,	—	1	1
“ Tin and Sheet Iron Workers,	1	2	3
“ Tailors,	—	7	7
“ Machinists,	3	3	6
“ Ship Carpenters & Boatbuilders,	—	3	3
“ Engraver,	—	1	1
“ Merchants,	2	1	3
“ Painters,	2	7	9
“ Plumber,	—	1	1
“ Masons,	2	6	8
“ Bookbinders,	—	1	1
“ Butcher,	—	1	1
“ Veneer Sawyer,	—	1	1
“ Clerk,	—	1	1
“ Blacksmiths,	4	5	9
“ Japanner,	—	1	1
“ Rigger,	—	1	1
“ Tanner and Currier,	2	2	4
“ Stonecutter,	1	1	2
“ Wheelwright,	1	1	2
“ Barbers,	2	6	8
“ Printers,	2	2	4
“ Coopers,	—	5	5
“ Sea Captains,	1	1	2
“ Engineer,	—	1	1
“ Wood Turner,	—	1	1
“ Attend School,	8	6	14

TABLE 4—Continued.

Disposal.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Indented to Boiler Makers, . . .	2	—	2
“ Cotton Manufacturers, . . .	2	—	2
“ Brass Moulder, . . .	1	—	1
“ Daguerreotype Artist, . . .	1	—	1
“ Brass Founder, . . .	2	—	2
	—129		
Discharged by order of Court, . .	—	6	6
Returned to Masters,	5	3	8
Escaped,	1	6	7
Died,	1	19	20
Total,	215	661	876

Those discharged by “Board of Trustees,” so far as heard from, have good places, and with few exceptions are doing well. Some who are indentured have disappointed our hopes, and several have been returned to the Institution; still it is believed the great majority bid fair to become useful men. Were it not for the injudicious interference of parents and friends, the number who thus disappoint us would without doubt be materially lessened.

Visits to the boys who are indentured have generally been very satisfactory, and with few exceptions we believe them to have good homes, where they are and will be properly cared for and educated, and where they will obtain such knowledge of business as will fit them for the duties of life.

TABLE 5,

Showing the length of time those remained in School who left the past year.

Remanded instanter, . . .	1	In School, 28 Months,	2
In School, 1 Month,	5	“ 29 “	2
“ 2 Months,	4	“ 30 “	5
“ 3 “	3	“ 31 “	2
“ 4 “	5	“ 32 “	1
“ 5 “	2	“ 33 “	2
“ 6 “	10	“ 34 “	3
“ 7 “	1	“ 36 “	5
“ 8 “	5	“ 38 “	2
“ 9 “	6	“ 39 “	2
“ 10 “	5	“ 40 “	5
“ 11 “	4	“ 41 “	4
“ 12 “	26	“ 42 “	1
“ 13 “	6	“ 43 “	1
“ 14 “	7	“ 44 “	3
“ 15 “	4	“ 45 “	1
“ 16 “	6	“ 46 “	2
“ 17 “	4	“ 47 “	3
“ 18 “	5	“ 48 “	1
“ 19 “	6	“ 49 “	1
“ 20 “	6	“ 52 “	3
“ 21 “	3	“ 54 “	1
“ 22 “	5	“ 55 “	1
“ 23 “	7	“ 56 “	1
“ 24 “	9	“ 64 “	1
“ 25 “	7	“ 66 “	1
“ 26 “	4		
“ 27 “	3	Total No. of Boys, .	215

Average, nearly 21 1-10 Months.

TABLE 6,

Showing by what authority committed.

Committed.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas, . . .	4	72	76
" Boston Municipal Court, . . .	26	99	125
" " Police Court, . . .	50	115	165
" Cambridge " . . .	1	-	1
" Fall River, " . . .	14	13	27
" Lawrence, " . . .	10	41	51
" Lowell, " . . .	13	57	70
" Lynn, " . . .	6	20	26
" Newburyport, " . . .	8	38	46
" New Bedford, " . . .	2	43	45
" Pittsfield, " . . .	4	22	26
" Salem, " . . .	20	68	88
" Springfield, " . . .	9	9	18
" Taunton, " . . .	4	8	12
" Worcester, " . . .	20	41	61
" By Justices of the Peace, . . .	152	340	492
Total, . . .	343	986	1,329

TABLE 7,

Showing the offences of those committed the past year and previously.

Offence.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Larceny,	108	346	454
Stubbornness,	171	395	566
Idle and Disorderly,	10	47	57
Vagrancy,	22	59	81
Shopbreaking and Stealing,	2	25	27
Housebreaking,	5	7	12
Burglary,	4	4	8
Shopbreaking with intent to steal,	—	25	25
Pilfering,	—	11	11
Having obscene books and prints for circulation,	—	2	2
Common drunkards,	—	5	5
Malicious mischief,	8	22	30
Assault,	—	5	5
Trespass,	—	7	7
Arson,	—	3	3
Runaway,	1	12	13
Robbery from person,	3	1	4
Quarrelling and profanity,	—	1	1
Assault and battery,	2	6	8
Forgery,	—	1	1
Concealing stolen goods,	—	1	1
Attempt at larceny,	—	1	1
“ “ robbery,	1	—	1
Barnburning,	1	—	1
Breaking and entering with intent to steal,	5	—	5
	343	986	1,329

As will appear from the foregoing, about one-half committed the past year are charged with stubbornness.

This charge embraces a large range of offences, from those the most trivial to those perhaps the most aggravated.

TABLE 8,

Showing the length of Sentences the past year and previously.

Sentenced.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	221	769	990
Until twenty years of age,	—	5	5
“ nineteen years of age,	—	1	1
“ eighteen years of age,	4	2	6
“ seventeen years of age,	4	—	4
“ fourteen years of age,	—	1	1
For one year,	23	45	68
“ one year and six months,	1	4	5
“ two years,	25	48	73
“ two years and six months,	—	2	2
“ three years,	28	54	82
“ four years,	18	20	38
“ four years and six months,	—	1	1
“ five years,	10	17	27
“ six years,	5	10	15
“ seven years,	1	—	1
“ eight years,	2	5	7
“ nine years,	1	—	1
“ ten years,	—	2	2
Total,	343	986	1,329

TABLE 9,

Showing the length of Alternative Sentences the past year and previously.

Sentenced.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	2	10	12
For seven years,	—	1	1
“ five years three months,	1	—	1
“ five years,	4	—	4
“ four years,	2	8	10
“ three years six months,	—	1	1
“ three years,	8	10	18
“ two years six months,	1	1	2
“ two years,	7	57	64
“ one year six months,	3	12	15
“ one year three months,	—	18	18
“ one year,	7	56	63
“ ten months,	3	—	3
“ nine months,	—	3	3
“ eight months,	—	5	5
“ six months,	88	271	359
“ five months,	1	9	10
“ four months,	8	24	32
“ three months,	39	166	205
“ two months,	65	184	249
“ forty days,	—	1	1
“ one month,	92	90	182
“ less than one month,	12	59	71
Total,	343	986	1,329

TABLE 10,

Showing the Nativity of those committed the past year and previously.

Nativity.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Born in Ireland,	41	101	142
“ New Brunswick,	12	25	37
“ England,	11	14	25
“ Canada,	1	8	9
“ Nova Scotia,	7	8	15
“ Scotland,	1	4	5
“ France,	—	1	1
“ West Indies,	1	1	2
Foreigners,	74	162	236
Born in Massachusetts,	215	663	878
“ Maine,	14	40	54
“ New Hampshire,	10	29	39
“ New York,	14	27	41
“ Vermont,	3	25	28
“ Connecticut,	2	14	16
“ Rhode Island,	6	13	19
“ Maryland,	1	3	4
“ New Jersey,	1	3	4
“ Pennsylvania,	2	3	5
“ Virginia,	—	3	3
“ Louisiana,	—	1	1
“ Illinois,	1	—	1
Natives,	269	824	1,093

Foreigners,	236
Natives,	1,093
Total,	1,329

Of the 1,093 born in the United States, 758 are of American parentage, 277 of Irish, 39 of English, 9 of French, 6 of Scotch, 3 of German, and 1 of Danish.

TABLE 11,

Showing the ages of the boys when committed.

Age.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Six years,	3	—	3
Seven “	3	6	9
Eight “	8	28	36
Nine “	19	48	67
Ten “	31	97	128
Eleven “	46	105	151
Twelve “	40	139	179
Thirteen “	51	142	193
Fourteen “	53	183	236
Fifteen “	55	208	263
Sixteen “	24	13	37
Seventeen years and over,	6	13	19
Unknown,	4	4	8
Total,	343	986	1,329

Average age $12\frac{1}{2}$ years, (nearly.)

For the moral and religious condition of the Institution, also the causes which are believed to have operated to render the committal of so large a number of boys to the Institution during the year necessary, I would respectfully refer you to the Report of the Chaplain, which fully embraces the subject.

Since the last annual Report, the enlargement, which was opened but a short time prior to its date, has been filled up, and the advantages hoped to be derived from it have been tested. In order more fully to realize those advantages, in the early part of the year the school was thoroughly reorganized, and those who before their committal had led decidedly vicious lives, or had lived in localities likely to render them such that their influence would be pernicious upon others who had been less exposed, were placed in one department, while those of the opposite class were placed in the other.

By this arrangement, intercourse between the two classes is almost entirely cut off, as with the exception of a few of the younger boys, and of a few necessarily brought together upon

the farm, &c., they are separated not only during their recreations, but while at work, at school, at meals, devotions, &c. We have the most sanguine expectations that very beneficial effects will result from the arrangement; and even at this early day, the most casual observer cannot fail to be impressed with its decided advantages.

The course of discipline pursued has not materially changed during the year. We always aim to blend decision and firmness with all of mildness which the case will permit; and I am happy to be able to state that cases of determined obstinacy or of severe discipline have been of rare occurrence.

The stated holidays have all been observed, and most heartily have the boys seemed to enjoy them.

The division of time for labor, school, recreations, &c., continues as heretofore.

AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT.

Number in the contractor's shop,	.	.	.	.	134
“ “ “ stitching shop,	.	.	.	.	106
“ “ “ sewing room,	.	.	.	.	102
“ “ farming, gardening, &c.,	.	.	.	.	38
“ “ laundry and scrubbing, and work about house,	63				
“ “ kitchen, cooking, and baking,	.	.	.	.	19
“ “ Miscellaneous,	.	.	.	.	8
					<hr/> 470

SHOE DEPARTMENT.

This department consists of three shops, two occupied by the contractors, Messrs. Gilmore & Cole, of Boston, for the manufacture of light shoes, where an average of one hundred and thirty-four boys have been employed, who have made 150,495 pairs of shoes. One occupied for stitching and repairing, where an average of one hundred and six boys have been employed in the performance of the following amount of labor:—

The closing of 61,807 pairs of shoes,
 “ stitching “ 5,788 “ “ boots,
 “ making “ 129 “ “ shoes,
 “ repairing “ 2,583 “ “ boots and shoes for the Institution.

The amount of stitching and closing was mostly done during the first eight months of the year, as the suspension of business on the part of manufacturers upon whom we have depended for employment has rendered it impossible for us to employ the boys as heretofore during the last four months of the year.

SEWING ROOM.

An average of one hundred and two boys have been employed in this department, and the following amount of labor has been performed, as per the Reports of the lady in charge :

Made 1,786 jackets,	Made 112 towels,
“ 2,053 pairs pants,	“ 240 aprons,
“ 90 vests,	“ 701 pairs suspenders,
“ 1,053 shirts,	“ 762 flannel wrappers,
“ 683 pairs socks,	“ 194 comforters,
“ 46 “ mittens,	“ 78 handkerchiefs,
“ 179 bedticks,	“ 10 sack coats,
“ 67 pillows,	“ 3 frocks,
“ 31 pillow cases,	“ 15 curtains,
“ 18 sheets,	“ 6 tablecloths,
“ 270 spreads,	“ 883 night shirts.
“ 1,200 caps,	

Whole number made during the year, . . 10,480

Repaired 3,984 jackets,	Repaired 25 frocks,
“ 6,293 pairs pants,	“ 100 straw hats,
“ 5,132 shirts,	“ 500 caps,
“ 2,590 pairs socks,	“ 100 pairs mittens,
“ 406 sheets, &c.,	“ 50 comforters,
“ 30 bedticks,	“ 63 pillows.
“ 428 aprons,	

Whole number repaired during the year, . . 19,701

LAUNDRY.

The average number employed in this department is twenty-nine.

The number of articles washed and ironed will not vary much from 160,000.

FARM.

This department remained under the charge of the Institution but four months of the year. The average number of boys employed upon it during that time is nineteen and three-fourths. They were employed as farmers' boys usually are during that season of the year.

A contract was concluded, which took effect on the first day of April, transferring the farm with its appurtenances to the "State Board of Agriculture." The average number employed upon the farm from that date is forty-seven and a half.

SCHOOL.

In the reorganization, eight rooms were opened for schools, four in each department, corresponding to each other. The higher or more advanced classes of each department form a first class, the next in grade a second, the next a third, and the lowest classes a fourth class.

The first class attend to practical arithmetic, astronomy, geography, grammar, history, reading and spelling. The most advanced division has commenced the study of algebra.

The second class attend to geography, arithmetic, reading and spelling.

The third class read in easy lessons, and spell. They also commence the study of mental arithmetic and geography.

The fourth class are beginners in reading and spelling. They are also instructed orally in arithmetic and geography.

All are instructed in writing, the fourth class principally upon slates.

These schools have all during the year been favored with faithful and competent teachers, and have made commendable proficiency in their various branches of study.

Those committed the past year have entered each class as follows :—

	1st Div'n.	2d Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
Entered 1st Class, . .	9	11	6	26	52
“ 2d “ . .	4	10	18	10	42
“ 3d “ . .	42	21	37	22	122
“ 4th “ . .	17	30	27	53	127
					<u>343</u>

Those discharged during the year were from the following classes :—

	1st Div'n.	2d Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
Discharged from 1st Class,	32	51	28	25	136
“ “ 2d “	16	22	8	3	49
“ “ 3d “	9	2	7	1	19
“ “ 4th “	2	3	—	6	11
					<u>115</u>

The following have been promoted to higher classes :—

	4th Div'n.	3d Div'n.	2d Div'n.	1st Div'n.	Total.
Promoted from 4th Class, .	42	27	26	24	119
“ “ 3d “ .	39	38	42	71	190
“ “ 2d “ .	60	38	39	39	176
“ “ 1st “ .	36	34	25	—	95

Present number in each class :—

	1st Div'n.	2d Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
In 1st Class, . . .	30	29	30	45	134
“ 2d “ . . .	22	38	44	30	134
“ 3d “ . . .	42	38	30	41	151
“ 4th “ . . .	35	35	42	27	139
Not classed, . . .	—	—	—	1	1
					<u>559</u>

Present number in school,	. . . . .	559
Of these read books generally, with more or less correctness, and write,	. . . . .	437
Read easy lessons and write after copies,	. . . . .	121
Can neither read nor write,	. . . . .	1
	—	559
Have studied practical arithmetic,	. . . . .	233
“ “ Colburn’s First Lessons,	. . . . .	110
“ “ Greenleaf’s Elementary,	. . . . .	131
“ “ “ Common School,	}	48
“ “ “ through Simple Rules,		
“ “ “ Reduction,	. . . . .	48
“ “ “ Fractions,	. . . . .	45
“ “ “ Interest,	. . . . .	13
“ “ “ Cube Root,	. . . . .	15
“ “ “ the book,	. . . . .	15
“ “ Geography,	. . . . .	454
“ “ History of the United States,	. . . . .	52
“ “ Grammar,	. . . . .	60
“ “ Astronomy,	. . . . .	41
“ “ Algebra,	. . . . .	30
Write on paper,	. . . . .	421
“ “ slates,	. . . . .	137

HEALTH.

It is, I trust, with sincere gratitude that I am permitted to report the general degree of health which has prevailed through the year. Very few cases of severe sickness have occurred, and no epidemic has visited us. There has been but one death, which occurred on the 24th day of September. No death previous to this had occurred since the 28th day of May, 1853.

To those valued friends (gentlemen and ladies of Westborough) who have during the year (some for several years) aided us as teachers in our Sabbath School, we tender our sincere thanks. While they thus perseveringly, punctually, and self-denyingly seek to benefit and reform erring youth, may they be blessed abundantly.

We would also remember our obligations to the Rev. Mr. Cady, the Rev. Mr. Gage, and N. B. Chamberlain, Esq., of

Westboro', the Rev. Mr. James, of Worcester, the Rev. Mr. Biscoe, of Grafton, the Rev. Dr. Sears and the Rev. B. K. Pierce, of Boston, and Wm. M. Rodman, Esq., of Providence, R. I., for the very interesting and instructive lectures with which they favored our youthful charge during the winter of 1853-4.

Also the Westboro' Glee Club for an excellent concert. Many a young heart will cherish their memory.

We take pleasure in again recording our indebtedness to those friends who have continued to bestow, gratuitously, valuable books, papers and periodicals, which have been a source of so much pleasure, and we trust profit, to us all. We especially mention the following journals and periodicals which have been regularly received: "American Weekly Traveller," "Olive Branch," "Youth's Companion," "Massachusetts Spy," "Cataract," "National Ægis," "Lowell American," "Cambridge Chronicle," "Salem Register," "Prisoner's Friend," "Assistant of the Ministry at Large," "New England Farmer," "Pennsylvania Journal of Prison Discipline," and the "New York Phrenological and Water Cure Journal."

Also to the Rev. B. K. Pierce, of Boston, who has for a considerable portion of the year collected and sent to us, weekly, from fifty to one hundred papers and pamphlets of different kinds, and to John Ball, Esq., of Salem, who always remembers the boys with his favors.

We are sad in noticing the death of Hon. John Davis, to whom we were so often indebted for valuable public documents.

Also of one associated with you at the commencement of the year, who has been called to rest from his earthly labors, (D. H. Forbes, Esq.) We sympathize with his bereaved family and friends, and bear a cheerful testimony to his interest in, and untiring efforts for, the welfare of our institution. Almost the last act of his life was the purchase of a neatly-bound volume, to be presented after his death, in his name and from him, to each of our boys, then about four hundred and fifty in number. We trust he has but exchanged the labors of earth for the nobler employments of heaven.

An appropriate and impressive address was delivered at the

time of the presentation of the books by the Rev. Mr. Cady, of Westboro'.

In conclusion, I am happy to testify to the general fidelity of all associated with me, and would thank you, gentlemen, for your unremitted sympathy and coöperation, while I pledge to the institution my earnest and best efforts for its continued prosperity.

May the blessings of an all-wise Providence constantly attend this "noble charity."

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES M. TALCOTT,
Superintendent.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, WESTBORO', }
Nov. 30, 1854. }

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees the Chaplain respectfully submits his Fifth Annual Report.

GENTLEMEN:—The general prosperity of the closing year lays new claims upon our gratitude to God and our confidence in his continued regard. We have been mercifully preserved from fire and from pestilence, and in our numerous household no accident of a serious nature has occurred. The cases of dangerous illness have been few, and in a single instance only has Death claimed a victim. Even this we may not put in the scale of our sorrows, for his departure furnished a beautiful example of patience in suffering and sweet resignation in death. If he had been led to disregard for a time the duty of filial obedience, it needed only the chastening of Him who does not afflict willingly to awaken slumbering conscience and the recollection of unheeded instruction. Throughout his illness no murmur escaped his lips; and the calmness, and as he drew nigh to death the pleasure, with which he anticipated the change he coveted, assured those whose mournful pleasure it was to be at his bedside that for him death had no terrors, the grave no gloom. His funeral on the following day was an occasion of much solemnity, leaving its impress on many a heart.

We have endeavored to gather instruction from God's word as well as from his providence. The stated means of grace have been regularly observed in the Sabbath School and in the sanctuary. The attendance of the officers and care-takers at the chapel services, and the presence, generally, of some not connected with the School, has a salutary influence. As heretofore, the exercises have been conducted with special

reference to the youthful portion of the congregation,—the morning discourse being usually founded upon some instructive lesson taught in the biography or the history of the Old Testament Scriptures, and the afternoon devoted to the elucidation of some practical truth contained in the Scriptures of the New Testament. The general attention given has been gratifying; and there have been seasons of special interest which we may hope will be remembered for good.

The number of verses of the Scriptures committed to memory and repeated in the Sabbath School the past year, by those who can read with sufficient facility, is 159,098. The average to a pupil for the year is more than 500. The average to a pupil for each Sabbath is about 11. Those who are unable to study the Scriptures usually number about 150. To these oral instruction is given in their school-rooms, until their attainments are such as to justify their being placed in classes in the Sabbath School proper. The amount of divine truth treasured in the memory is large; and the very general cheerfulness, and often real interest, with which these lessons are learned, and the few delinquencies in this particular, may be regarded as eminently hopeful and encouraging, in view of the fact that very few of those committed have previously attended the Sabbath School with sufficient regularity to become interested in its object, or to derive advantage from its instruction. Their actual attendance previous to admission, will be found upon another page of this Report, in connection with other facts touching former habits and delinquencies, which it is believed have in no small degree contributed to render their confinement here a necessity. It is not unusual for boys to double or triple the prescribed lesson; and in some instances, hundreds of verses more than were assigned have been committed to memory in a single quarter. A laudable ambition in this direction is awakened by noting down the lesson each Sabbath and the readiness with which it is recited. Good deportment is encouraged and commended in the same manner, and once a quarter the results are given in the presence of all.

The services of the Sabbath School teachers deserve a more extended notice than the appropriate limits of this Report will allow. For this real labor of love, they receive and desire no

earthly reward beyond the consciousness that their labor is not in vain. Nor is it. The words of kindness spoken during this hour of the Sabbath awaken emotions and originate friendships which neither time nor distance of separation will efface from the memory or drive from the heart. Intelligence of the death of an excellent and devoted teacher, communicated to an apprentice, called forth the following reply: "I feel very sorry indeed to hear of the death of my former Sabbath School teacher, when I think of the many lessons I repeated to him when at the School. I think he was a very good man, and his class must feel very bad. They have lost a friend, and a warm friend too." An estimable young lady, the daughter of a former trustee now deceased, died the past year, having been connected with the Sabbath School as a teacher since its organization. Members of her class had presented her little tokens of their regard, of no intrinsic value, but prized because of the feeling which prompted the gift. At her request they have been returned to those who gave them, since her death, and will be mementoes of a generous devotion to their welfare, and a life of unaffected piety which cannot die. A lad discharged from the School, finding himself without employment, recently applied to his former Sabbath School teacher for a berth on board a ship at his disposal, and is now on his way to the East Indies. Books and papers have been distributed among classes by their teachers, and recreation and money, or its equivalent, sometimes generously furnished to heighten the enjoyment of the holidays. In some instances, an occasional correspondence has been engaged in after separation; and often, when discharged or apprenticed, boys express a wish to call on their Sabbath School teachers before leaving town. Let us hope that these bearers of the seed of life will be found in the harvest rejoicing over their sheaves.

I have endeavored to acquaint myself with the habits of the boys, their career in delinquency and crime, and the circumstances of their arrest and committal, knowing that the preservation of such facts is regarded as desirable, and may contribute towards determining what means should be employed to arrest the progress of that class of our youth who are entering upon a life of infamy to themselves and injury to others. These facts have been elicited chiefly in those inter-

views which are suggested by the relation subsisting between the boys and myself. A disposition to conceal the deformity of their lives is sometimes observable ; but frankness in answering such questions as are asked is very general when once the confidence has been won. The domestic influences to which they have been subjected—circumstances which they could not control—are stated in the following table :—

	1854.	Previously.	Total.
Whole number received,	343	986	1,329
Have lost father,	100	271	371
“ “ mother,	54	139	193
“ “ both parents,	35	85	120
“ fathers who are without occupation,	99	398	497
“ “ “ intemperate,	96	304	400
“ mothers “ “	6	14	20
“ parents “ both intemperate,	35	123	158
“ “ whose example is otherwise morally pernicious,	175	543	718
“ or have had one or more members of their families in penal or reformatory institutions,	104	255	359

Orphanage has doubtless had an adverse influence upon some whom it has been found necessary to subject to the discipline of the School, especially in those cases where both parents have been removed by death ; but inefficiency, intemperance, and a baleful example on the part of parents, and their committal to prisons in quite a number of instances, have contributed largely to the recreant life of many a boy. It is but just to add, that the parentage of one-fourth is probably good.

The following statement exhibits the habits and delinquencies of those committed the past and previous years. These cover an average period of about two and one-sixth years.

	1854.	Previously.	Total.
Whole number received,	343	986	1,329
Were mostly idle previous to admission, . . .	314	868	1,182
“ untruthful,	337	935	1,272
“ profane in language,	308	872	1,180
“ obscene “	258	774	1,032
“ truants,	268	846	1,114
“ Sabbath breakers,	238	776	1,014
Never attended Sabbath School,	57	190	247
Were irregular or occasional attendants only, .	216	641	857
Had a companionship more or less intimate with each other previous to their commitment, . .	291	753	1,044
Had visited places of questionable amusement, .	216	670	886
Had slept out at night, in stables, sheds, boxes, and similar places,	161	560	721
Had used tobacco,	155	495	650
“ drunk strong drink, many to intoxication, .	95	338	433
“ been previously arrested once,	69	211	280
“ “ “ “ twice,	31	72	103
“ “ “ “ three times,	7	38	45
“ “ “ “ four times,	3	18	21
“ “ “ “ five times or more,	2	46	48
Whole number previously arrested,	114	385	499
Had been in prisons, houses of detention, or reform- atory schools,	78	303	381

The gradual decrease of these habits, in proportion to their seriousness, and the regularity with which they keep pace with each other where an alliance seems to subsist between two or more, is worthy of remark. Idleness, generally from inability to find constant employment, or from not being kept at school,—and perhaps the least reprehensible of any of the habits named in the table, in boys whose average age is not more than twelve and one-half years,—stands first. Those sins of the tongue which are acquired with so much facility by children, unless special care is taken to keep them from contact with the vile, come next. Truancy, and its natural ally, Sabbath breaking, follow immediately after. A love of roving through the week begets a disregard for the Sabbath; and hence the large number who do not avail themselves of the teachings of the Sabbath School and the sanctuary. “Two,” “three” and “four months,” and “not much,” were frequent replies to the question, “How much have you attended the Sabbath School and public worship?” One little fellow,

after due deliberation, gravely concluded he had "been about a couple o' times." Truancy and Sabbath breaking are both peculiarly favorable to bad companionship. Visiting places of questionable amusement—generally open until a late hour of the night—often suggests, and always fosters, that strange practice to which so many are addicted—sleeping in sheds, stables, any where that circumstances may suggest. The use of tobacco is found to immediately precede, if it does not directly lead to, the use of intoxicating drinks; and theft has been often committed, particularly in the cities and larger villages, to obtain these vitiating luxuries and to procure admission to places of demoralizing amusement. These steps, successively taken, almost invariably precede, in about this order, the commission of those higher offences for which some are here.

The depredations against property, for which quite a number have been committed the past year, were for the most part trifling. Two thousand two hundred dollars was the largest amount stolen; and this far exceeds any other sum.

The number of cases of "stubbornness" and similar offences is large. Of this class of offenders, one hundred and thirty-five, or two-thirds, have, by their own acknowledgement, made themselves amenable to the laws by the commission of graver offences. Quite a large proportion of the remaining one-third are among the most wayward and perverse.

One hundred and ninety-five, or about four-sevenths, were committed on the complaint of their parents or relatives, or at their request.

These all may be thus generally classified:—

First. Those who are of tender years, and those who appear to be wanting in such positive traits of character as are indispensable to future usefulness. Circumstances have placed them here. They are few in number.

The second class comprises those who are beyond the control of parents or guardians, and have been guilty of some acts of dishonesty and lawlessness, but are not positively vicious and criminal. These number nearly one-half.

Those who make up the third class are unmistakably bad. Success in a diversity of crime has made them shrewd and

calculating above their years. Among these is a large proportion of those who have been in places of confinement previous to their admission here; and it is to be feared that stone walls and iron doors and bars are in reserve for some of them yet. These are about the same in number as the second class.

Those who remain are adepts in crime. They are not only shrewd and calculating, but determined and daring. If justice were meted out to them for the offences they have committed without detection, weary years of toil would be theirs in the highest order of prisons. It is possible some of them may reform. They are about the same in number as the first class.

We have been encouraged by the frequent receipt of intelligence from many who have gone out from us and are doing well, and by occasional visits from some whose appearance indicated a thorough reformation; while we cannot but regret the recreancy of some and the fall of others, who have either been returned to us or committed to similar institutions, or have put on the felon's attire in houses of correction or state prisons. These latter, however, are mostly of those whose career was bad before they came under our influence.

The experience of the past and previous years justifies these conclusions:—

First. That very few, comparatively, are committed to this institution who are not proper subjects for its restraints and discipline.

Second. That classification, in such a way as to prevent the vile and the criminal from coming in contact with the comparatively good, is a matter of prime importance, whether we look to the present or the future good of those concerned.

Third. That the institution will be instrumental in saving a majority of those who come under its fostering care; but that some, from a variety of circumstances, will go down to ruin, and will take others with them it is to be feared, notwithstanding what may be done for them here.

I am happy to renew the acknowledgment of favors from the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent, the Steward, and others.

P. LINCOLN CUSHING, *Chaplain.*

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, }
Westboro', Mass., Nov. 30, 1854. }

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

WESTBORO', December 1, 1854.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School:—

GENTLEMEN :—In compliance with the established rules of your Board, I will lay before you the following summary of facts respecting the health of the inmates during the year ending December 1st.

When my last report was given, one remained in the hospital with chronic disease of the lungs. This patient was discharged from the institution in August, with health considerably improved. There have been likewise under medical care, for pneumonia, 3; erysipelas, 2; and for acute rheumatism, dysentery, typhoid fever and scarlatina, 1 each. Ophthalmia has become very unfrequent; but one case has occurred that required confinement in the hospital, and that one was committed with the disease upon him. The general hygiene of the institution at present adopted, it may reasonably be hoped, will prevent its future recurrence to any considerable extent.

One died of erysipelas in September, which is the only case of fatality for eighteen months. The sanitary condition of the institution has been more satisfactory through the year than during any previous year since its establishment.

Yours respectfully,

H. H. RISING.

APPENDIX.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM MASTERS, &c., RELATIVE TO BOYS WHO HAVE BEEN APPRENTICED.

February 15, 1854.

Dear Sir:—At the request of G., who has been attending the institution under my care, I write this line, assuring you that his demeanor has been not only unexceptionable, but highly exemplary and commendable. Miss —— and myself have become deeply interested in him. He has not only won our entire confidence, but our highest esteem and warm affections.

We think that efforts put forth for his thorough education would promise as rich and sure a reward as those put forth for any person within the sphere of our acquaintance.—*Letter from the Preceptor of an Academy.*

July 19, 1854.

Sir:—C. is in very good health, and has been during the year. He is a very good boy, and I hope to prove a benefit to him.

July 31, 1854.

Dear Sir:—I am happy to say that my boys are doing well. I would like another boy,—a good one,—for I prize the welfare of my boys too highly to wish any but good companions for them. I believe no one has better boys.

They attend meeting and Sabbath School.

August 8, 1854.

Dear Sir:—Prescott has been very well; his conduct and improvement has been as good as we could expect.

He attended school every day last winter. I hope our connection will prove a blessing to him and a benefit to me.

August 1, 1854.

Dear Sir:—I said, when I last wrote you, that P. was a very good boy. He grows better and better every day.

We think very much of him. He is polite and truthful, honest and faithful, improves all his time, and is very useful.

He is regular at church and the Sabbath School.

August 20, 1854.

Dear Sir:—P. is a very good boy indeed; we have no fault to find with him.

He could hardly seem more interested were every thing his own here; always pleasant and agreeable, with willing hands and cheerful countenance he wins the love and confidence of all.

He attends meeting and the Sabbath School, and manifests much interest, particularly in the latter.

He says, though his time soon expires, he shall not leave us.

September 8, 1854.

Dear Sir :—As regards A., his health has been good. I find your description of him very true.

I have been strict with him, and he has improved very much. He attends meeting and Sabbath School regularly.

September 2, 1854.

Dear Sir :—You requested me to write you respecting John. His health has been very good indeed. He is contented, and we are very well satisfied with him. He is constant at meeting and Sabbath School; has not been absent from either one Sabbath during the year. He belongs to the choir. He attended school every day last winter, and we think improved very much.

October 21, 1854.

Dear Sir :—Allow me to thank your Institution for the benefit my brother received while under its influence. He is now steady, and interested in his business.

November 14, 1854.

Dear Sir :—John enjoys good health, and gives good satisfaction—doing as well as could be expected. Our school will soon commence, and he seems ready to go. He likes his books and studies very much, and improves very fast. He likes his trade, and is getting along well. He says he would like to hear from the school, and wishes you to write to him. He sends his love to all, and would like to see you.

November 20, 1854.

Dear Sir :—Knowing that you would like to hear from me in relation to James, I write you. He is doing as well at his trade as I could expect. He will commence going to school soon, and I hope he will learn more than he did last winter. He attends meeting regularly, and takes quite an interest in the Sabbath School.

November 30, 1854.

Dear Sir :—I write to inform you of the health and conduct of A. His health has been very good. He gets along with his trade, and is a good boy.

November 30, 1854.

Dear Sir :—I write to inform you of William. His health is good. He is both honest and industrious, obedient and civil, gets along fast in his business, and we think him one of the best boys in town.

November 5, 1854.

Dear Sir :—In accordance with my engagements, I write to inform you of my son. He has attended school one term, and worked upon the farm the remainder of the year. I would say that a marked improvement has taken place in him—began, as I believe, at your Institution. His place of work, and the companions he finds here, are, I believe, well suited to him. He remembers his home in Westboro' with pleasure.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM BOYS.

January 25, 1854.

Dear Friend :—It is with great pleasure I write to you. I arrived home well, and was welcomed by all. One of my old companions says he would like to get me back into my old habits ; but I trust that He who is Maker of all, and my own will, will keep me from him. I left home the first day of January, and am now here at school. We have thirty boarders and three day scholars. I am getting along well in my studies. I send my best respects to you, to Messrs. H. and N., and also all the boys. Please write soon.

Yours truly.

May 21, 1854.

My dear Friend :—I like my place very much ; we have a large shop, and in a pleasant spot. We have a nice meeting house just finished, and there is now quite a revival. It is a Baptist church. One who works in the shop is to be baptized next Sabbath. I do not think I am a Christian. My love to all.

June 11, 1854.

Dear Friend :—I write to let you know I have a good place and am doing well. Father has been up to see me, and was glad to find me in a good place. I go to the district school. John M. goes to the high school. There are a number of boys in this town from the Institution, and all are doing well.

June 12, 1854.

Absent Friend :—I write to inform you of my health and situation. I have been well, and like my trade very much, also my master and mistress.

They have never had occasion to punish me.

P. L. is well ; he lives near me ; has got a good place.

My master thinks he will visit the school this summer with me. Give my love to all the boys. I should like to hear from you and all.

June 24, 1854.

Dear Sir :—I hardly know how to express my thanks for the interest you manifested in my welfare and for all you have done for me. I hope I shall never be led off by temptation ; if I do, it will be through my own folly. Thus far I have succeeded in mastering temptation according to my determination.

I have busied myself during the past week, in my leisure time, reading a very interesting book. Went to W. yesterday. Saw N. He is doing well ; now gets \$1.25 per day. He proposes to visit you soon. I hope I shall be able to come and see you again in a month or two. Please remember me to Mrs. T., and tell her I thank her for all her kindness to me. Give my best respects to Mr. C. and all the officers, making no exceptions.

June 25, 1854.

My dear Friend :—I am well, and like my place and trade very much indeed. I have been home to visit my parent, and had a pleasant time.

John L. is well ; he has a good place, and likes very much. Ask the boys to write to me, and tell them to be particular and tell all about the school. I expect to come and visit you before long.

July 25, 1854.

Dear Sir:—My health is good. I am well pleased with my master, and think it a very pleasant place.

I attend meeting every Sabbath.

August 28, 1854.

My dear Friend:—I am very happy. I like my master very well. I don't think I could have a better one. I should like much to come and make a visit to the school, and think I shall before long.

I thank you for the many privileges I received at your hands, and also desire to express my gratitude for all that was done for me there; for, had it not been for the Reform School and its officers, instead of being what I now am, I probably should have been an inmate of the State Prison. Give my best respects to all the officers, and love to the boys. I suppose there are a great many there I do not know; but I hope they will all be good boys and make good men.

Please write soon as convenient.

September 2, 1854.

My dear Friend:—I have got a good place and a good master. I have been very well, and intend to continue to be a good boy. Edward H. is well, and doing well. He wants to have you send him the book Mr. Forbes gave him.

September 28, 1854.

Dear Sir:—I write to let you know how I am getting along. I am at work every day, and am not sorry that I was sent to stay with you. I think it has done me good. I was headstrong, and thought my own way the best; but I have found out different.

Give my respects to all the boys and to all inquiring friends.

November 26, 1854.

My dear Friend:—I have been getting along finely all summer, and study all the spare time I get like a Trojan. Tell the boys for me that the seconds make the minutes, the minutes the hours, the hours the days, days fill up the years, and years make life, which will soon be over with us all. This thought should urge us on and create within us greater desires for improvement. Thanks to the Reform School. May it continue to flourish.

November 30, 1854.

Dear Friend:—Your letter of the 21st was received, and for your kind advice I thank you. I intend to persevere in those good resolutions that were formed while at the school; to be faithful, honest and industrious; to endeavor to live in such a manner as to gain me the confidence of those for whom I work and with whom I may be brought in contact. I intend to strive to make myself useful to those by whom I am surrounded. Give my love to all. Please write as often as convenient.

OFFICERS.

TRUSTEES.

EDWARD B. BIGELOW.	G. HOWLAND SHAW.
GEORGE H. KUHN.	HARVEY DODGE.
JOHN H. W. PAGE.	THOMAS A. GREENE.
HENRY W. CUSHMAN.	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

GEORGE H. KUHN.	EDWARD B. BIGELOW.
HARVEY DODGE.	

JAMES M. TALCOTT, *Superintendent.*

ORVILLE K. HUTCHINSON, *Assistant Superintendent.*

AMANDA S. TALCOTT, *Matron.*

MARY K. STANWOOD, *Assistant Matron.*

REV. P. LINCOLN CUSHING, *Chaplain.*

MOSES O. AYER, *Steward.*

TEACHERS.

WINSLOW ROBERTS.	CHARLES TALCOTT.
FREDERIC MORRISON.	CHARLES H. SMITH.
CHARLES H. HUBBARD.	MRS. CUSHING.
MRS. ROBERTS.	MISS BRADFORD.

OVERSEERS OF WORKSHOPS.

STEPHEN N. BATES.	FRANCIS A. SPEAR.
HORACE E. BELLOWS.	

ALBERT J. NEWHALL, *Baker.*

MRS. PAIGE, *Laundress.*

SEAMSTRESSES.

MISS PALMER.	MISS CUSHMAN.
MRS. MORRISON.	



Drawn from nature by C. E. Borwell

J. H. Bradford & Co. Lith.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL AT WESTBOROUGH, MASS. ENLARGED 1852-53.

ERECTED 1847-48. † LENGTH OF FRONT 385 FT. ‡ 3 REAR WINGS 200 FT. EACH.

NINTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

STATE REFORM SCHOOL,

AT WESTBOROUGH,

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOSTON:

WILLIAM WHITE, PRINTER, No. 4 SPRING LANE.

1856.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
Council Chamber, January, 1856. }

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives :—

I transmit, herewith, for the use of the Legislature, the Ninth Annual Report of the Trustees of the State Reform School, at Westborough, with the accompanying Reports of the officers of the Institution.

HENRY J. GARDNER.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

The Trustees of the State Reform School respectfully present to the Governor and Council, their Ninth Annual Report of the affairs of that Institution, for the year ending November 30, 1855.

As heretofore, the Reports of the Superintendent, of the Chaplain and the Treasurer, which accompany this, are full and specific, giving ample information in the several departments of which they treat, and precluding the necessity of further details from this Board, in any of those particulars.

The management of the farm having passed from our hands into those of the Board of Agriculture, excepting a small portion of it immediately contiguous to the school buildings, it belongs to us only to say, in reference to the portion remaining within our control, that the fences and grounds, as well as the terraces in front of the new apartments, are nearly completed; thus giving to the premises a more finished and agreeable aspect than they have hitherto presented to the eye of the visitor.

The visits of the Trustees to the Institution have, owing to the increase of the number of inmates and to some other causes, been more frequent during the past than during any former year. One of these causes has been a very thorough examination of the state of the Institution, that the Trustees were called upon to make during the last summer. The rule has been adopted

that each Trustee, in making the semi-monthly visit required by the Act establishing this school, shall prepare a written account of his visit, to be recorded in a book kept for the purpose, stating the condition in which he may find the various apartments, and making such other comments and suggestions as circumstances may seem to require. All these Reports are laid before the Board at their regular quarterly meetings. Under this careful supervision, the condition of the Institution has, with the cordial coöperation of its officers, gradually and steadily improved, and we feel warranted in saying, that it has at no time since its establishment presented a better appearance than at the present time.

Beside that share of attention bestowed upon the schools in these semi-monthly visits of inspection, two general examinations have been made by our School Committee, one in July and the other in November of the present year. There are now eight separate schools, four in each division of the building, containing an average of about seventy scholars to each school. These schools, in both divisions, are graded according to the proficiency of the pupils, who are thus promoted from the lower to the higher classes, and thence to the higher schools, according to their advancement in their studies. Eight teachers are employed, one for each school. Four of these are males and four are females; the experiment of employing the latter as teachers in these schools having proved eminently successful. Two entire days, and very busy days they were too, were devoted to each of these examinations. To accomplish this work in November, it was necessary to begin with one school by candle-light before breakfast, and to examine the fourth in the evening. They were thus separately and pretty thoroughly examined. Detailed reports of these examinations were made, which are entered upon our records. It may here be said, summarily, that the performances of the pupils, for the most part, fully answered our expectations, being creditable alike to teachers and to scholars, and were accordingly satisfactory.

The same Committee was charged with the duty of procuring a suitable library of books for the use of the schools, under the appropriation made from the State Treasury by the legislative Resolve of last winter for that purpose. The Committee report

that about two hundred and thirty volumes have already been procured, and that their attention to the subject shall be continued till the whole appropriation shall have been expended. By this seasonable provision of the legislature a pressing want has been supplied, and it is the present purpose of this Board to continue the annual appropriations authorized by that Resolve, until a library shall be provided more adequate to the necessities of the numerous and inquiring, but hitherto neglected family, which has been intrusted to our care. Nor will it, we trust, be deemed impertinent or obtrusive on our part, if, in this connection, we venture to suggest to those of our fellow-citizens who have been more bountifully furnished in these respects, that their duplicate copies of books, and many others, which would scarcely be missed from their libraries and other places of deposit, might be turned to very good account at the Reform School. Placed within the reach of our nearly six hundred boys, they would not all be like seed falling on barren or stony ground, but would, many of them, spring up and grow, bearing their thirty, sixty, or even their hundred fold, at the coming harvest.

With the exception of the varioloid, which prevailed among the boys to a considerable extent during several weeks of the last winter, the Institution has been blessed with its customary share of good health and exemption from the ravages of disease during the past year. For further particulars of the prevalence of that disorder, we refer to the Report of Dr. Rising, the Physician, which is subjoined.

Several cases have occurred, where boys have been sent to this Institution who have property themselves, or who have parents abundantly able to support them. The propriety of some legislative enactment, requiring payment for the support of such boys, has, at several times, claimed the attention of the Trustees, and is now respectfully referred to the consideration of the Executive and the legislature.

We have received, at this time, a communication from Josiah Stedman, executor of the will of Mary Lamb, late of Boston, deceased, expressing his readiness to pay over, to such person as we should designate, the sum of one thousand dollars, a legacy from the deceased to the State Reform School. We have

accordingly authorized one of our number, Mr. Harvey Dodge, to receive said legacy on our behalf.

By the Report of the Treasurer it appears, that the balance in his hands at the close of the fiscal year, was fifty dollars and two cents. At the same time there were outstanding bills due and unpaid, amounting to fifteen hundred and twenty dollars and seventeen cents, and there had been earned for work done by the boys, the payment for which was not yet due under the contract, nearly the same amount. As the latter, or an equivalent to it, may be expected to occur in every year, it should not be taken into account in our estimate. We think there will be needed, and we accordingly ask, to meet the expenses of the ensuing year, an appropriation of forty-four thousand dollars, agreeably to the following estimate:—

Provisions and clothing for 480 boys, at \$45 each,	\$26,100 00
Salaries, wages and support of officers,	12,000 00
Fuel, lights, and current expenses,	8,000 00
Repairs and incidental expenses,	3,000 00
For bills now due and unpaid,	1,500 00
	<hr/>
	\$50,600 00
Deduct estimated receipts for labor of boys,	6,600 00
	<hr/>
	\$44,000 00

The sketch of the State Reform School edifice, taken since its enlargement, which accompanies this Report, was drawn on the spot by C. E. H. Bonwell, of Philadelphia. We think it a very correct and tasteful picture, and would respectfully propose that it be engraved, and form an appropriate frontispiece to our Report, when published.

The evidence of another year has served to confirm and deepen the impression previously entertained, of the great benefit conferred upon many of the boys, who become subjects of its training, and upon the community at large, by the establishment of this Institution. Commending it anew to the fostering

care of the government, and to the blessing of Almighty God,
we submit this our Ninth Report.

J. H. W. PAGE.
G. HOWLAND SHAW.
HARVEY DODGE.
THOMAS A. GREENE.
HENRY W. CUSHMAN.
JOHN A. FITCH.
PARLEY HAMMOND.

WESTBORO', Dec. 13, 1855.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

*To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,*

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents the Ninth Annual Report.

The Treasurer charges himself from December 1, 1854, to November 30, 1855, inclusive, as follows:—

For amount received from State Treasury, . . .	\$47,380 00
For amount of boys' labor, including that performed for the Board of Agriculture, and \$1,723.04 earned but not yet due, . . .	7,835 02
For board of farmers,	315 17
For rent of houses,	162 75
For sundries,	1,482 77
	<hr/>
	\$57,175 71

He has paid for bills due and unpaid, 30th of November, 1854, \$6,739 50

And states the expenses of the year as follows:—

Hospital expenses,	\$237 20
Furniture and bedding,	2,639 95
Fuel and lights,	3,950 53
Provisions and groceries,	22,340 65
Clothing,	5,287 49
Transportation,	611 04
General improvement and repairs,	2,617 63
Postage,	42 72
Salaries and wages,	10,395 15

School books and stationery, . . .	\$636 08	
Leather, tools, and materials for shoe shop,	969 32	
Trustees' expenses,	376 57	
Miscellaneous,	1,802 63	
Balance paid to P. Hammond, succeeding Treasurer,	50 02	
	<hr/>	\$51,956 38

Making a total of payments and expenses of \$58,695 88
 And exceeding the means provided by the sum of one thousand five hundred and twenty dollars and seventeen cents, which sum is now due to sundry persons for articles furnished.

Tools and Materials for the Shoe Shop, include

Leather, 2,503 $\frac{3}{4}$ feet,	\$328 53
Leather, 2,923 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	580 44
Pegs, tacks, wax, &c.,	3 90
Tools,	56 45
	<hr/>
	\$969 32

Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials on general repairs, . . .	\$1,459 46
Repairing steam pipes, boiler, engine and fixtures, . . .	67 39
Steam pipes for warming dormitories,	168 31
Ventilator,	30 50
Painting, whitewashing, brushes, &c.,	237 19
Locks, keys, and door-handles,	28 93
Glass and glazing,	50 02
Pumps and lead pipe,	61 38
Paper hangings,	30 65
Repairing slating,	12 38
Carpenters' tools,	56 56
Belting,	4 00
Grading,	251 95
Laying wall and drawing stone for same,	158 31
	<hr/>
	\$2,617 03

Books, Stationery and Printing, include

School books,	\$423 33
Blank books,	27 00
Slates, 31 dozen,	29 50
Writing books, paper, pens, ink, &c.,	130 62
Evening Traveller,.	7 50
Advertising,	18 13
	<hr/>
	\$636 08

Furniture and Bedding, include

Ticking, 1,643 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	\$199 69
Sheeting, 1,349 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	189 66
Table linen and crash, 478 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	83 20
Towels, 6 dozen,	16 50
Diaper, for spreads, 603 yards,	94 13
Blankets, 49 pairs,	110 25
Prints, 1,012 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards; batting, 850 pounds,	117 29
Straw for beds, 25,335 pounds,	125 40
Thread, 9 pounds,	8 89
Needles and thimbles,	10 25
Carpeting, 36 yards,	22 84
Mats, 36,	34 70
Reed organ,	147 00
Use of melodeon, and repairing,	22 25
School desks and seats,	128 00
Dining table,	30 88
Secretary,	35 00
Sink, \$8; bedstead, \$5.25,	13 25
Pails, 66,	18 12
Tubs, barrels, and other wooden ware,	69 67
Clothes-lines and pins,	12 22
Knives and forks,	106 96
Spoons,	18 92
Scales and weights,	11 75
Sausage cutter,	10 00
Crockery,	340 86

Glass and earthen ware,	\$26 50
Tin, copper, and iron ware,	98 23
Lanterns and lamps,	60 10
Chimneys and shades,	42 94
Brooms and brushes,	155 00
Baskets, 25,	15 62
Shears, 7,	8 14
Stoves, funnel, &c.,	110 30
Chairs, 220,	85 76
Stools and pedestals for dining-room, 30,	21 00
Sundries,	38 68
<hr/>	
	\$2,639 95

Clothing, includes

Satinets, 5,747 yards,	\$3,240 68
Denims, 3,596 yards,	419 76
Cloth for apprentices' clothing, 219 yards,	71 97
Vesting, 65½ yards,	9 20
Tweed, 79 yards,	14 91
Cotton cloth, 5,953 yards,	467 58
Cotton flannel, 1,251 yards,	122 31
Caps and visors,	68 60
Senit hats, 16 dozen,	22 80
Thread, 177 pounds,	140 44
Frocking, 101¾ yards,	40 80
Needles, pins and thimbles,	4 87
Buttons, 135 gross,	127 40
Suspenders, 13 dozen,	14 65
Socks, 10 dozen,	34 00
Yarn, 500 pounds,	420 00
Boots, 7 pairs, \$13,40 ; Shoes, 22 pairs, \$22,	35 40
Cravats, 8 dozen,	8 64
Combs, 26½ gross,	20 25
Scissors, wax, and other small articles,	3 23
<hr/>	
	\$5,287 49

Provisions and Groceries, include

Flour, 874 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels,	\$9,150 68
Rye Meal, 341 bushels,	447 02
Indian Meal, 1,169 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels,	1,327 40
Buckwheat, 5 bags,	24 50
Malt, 325 pounds,	7 50
Crackers,	61 44
Beef, 35,849 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	2,454 28
Pork, 10,034 pounds,	848 17
Ham, 219 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	25 44
Mutton,	161 39
Veal, 2,238 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	169 00
Tripe, 244 lbs., \$18.67; sausages, 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., \$3.56,	22 23
Fish, 11,525 pounds,	338 42
Poultry, 95 pounds,	25 54
Potatoes, 1,503 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	749 37
Beans and peas, 222 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels,	335 91
Rice, 28,174 pounds,	1,450 60
Salt, 56 sacks and 25 bags,	84 20
Sugar, 5,971 pounds,	436 52
Coffee, 860 pounds,	94 10
Tea, 243 pounds,	97 36
Chocolate, 2,311 pounds,	340 19
Molasses, 5,104 gallons,	1,192 36
Honey, 6 gallons,	7 23
Butter, 2,605 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	616 66
Cheese, 598 pounds,	67 17
Vinegar, 232 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons,	31 03
Ice,	10 50
Bags, 6,	1 20
Pepper, 100 pounds,	12 68
Lard and tallow, 158 pounds,	19 51
Soap, 3,800 pounds,	190 00
Potash, 1,591 pounds,	114 73
Tapioca, 43 pounds, \$6.39; Nutmegs, 10 lbs., \$11,	17 39
Eggs, 100 dozen,	21 71
Hops, 104 pounds,	33 53
Apples, 45 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels,	30 03

Dried apples, 127 pounds,	\$9 31
Cream of tartar, 56 pounds,	19 91
Cassia, ground, 25 pounds,	8 91
Raisins, 11 boxes,	29 63
Starch, 139 pounds,	12 77
Pepper sauce, and other small groceries,	29 35
Milk, 7,988,	987 69
Strawberries and raspberries,	19 65
Cranberries, $3\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	7 75
Pears, and other fruit from the garden,	32 40
Parsnips, 14 bushels,	3 50
Carrots, 2 tons,	25 00
Sage, $1\frac{3}{4}$ bushel,	5 50
Beets, 15 bushels,	7 85
Onions, $51\frac{1}{4}$ bushels,	34 33
Winter squashes, 2,354 pounds,	19 00
Cabbages, 1,346,	56 30
Tomatoes, pumpkins, and other garden vegetables,	14 81
	<hr/>
	\$22,340 65

Fuel and Lights, include

Coal, 321 tons,	\$2,616 90
Charcoal, 186 bushels,	30 50
Wood, $182\frac{1}{16}$ cords,	783 67
Oil, 667 gallons,	507 51
Lamp wicks and wicking,	11 95
	<hr/>
	\$3,950 53

Miscellaneous, includes

Expenses in pursuing and returning elopers,	\$191 33
Expenses in returning boys to friends, and fitting them out to sea,	112 56
Travelling expenses on business for the institution,	124 08
Expenses in pursuing and returning apprentices who had left their places,	29 15
Conveying Sabbath school teachers to the institu- tion,	112 50

Coffins and expenses of funerals,	\$22 10
Repairing chaise, wagon, and other carriages,	48 81
Harness, repairing whips, &c.,	40 44
Horse cart,	37 42
Chaise,	85 00
Carriage,	162 50
Sleigh,	13 00
Grain for horses, 219 bushels,	189 62
Hay, 12,724 pounds,	109 76
Blacksmith work, shoeing horses, &c.,	63 92
Interest and discount,	123 70
Butchering,	12 54
Wheelbarrows, 12,	36 00
Hay cutter and corn sheller,	23 00
Shovels, 15, and other garden tools,	45 75
Plowing, and drawing stones from garden, &c.,	29 07
Apple and cherry trees,	10 00
Shrubs, grape vines, and ornamental trees,	54 87
Garden seeds,	19 42
Chloride of lime, 1 cask,	23 15
Repairing sewing machine,	16 15
One half expense of drafting contract between Trustees and Board of Agriculture,	50 00
Sundries,	16 79
	<hr/>
	\$1,802 63

HARVEY DODGE,

Treasurer State Reform School.

WESTBOROUGH, November 30, 1855.

LYMAN FUND.

The principal of this fund is the same as it was

November 30, 1854, \$20,000 00

Income of the Fund.

Jan'y.	Dividend on 60 shares Boston and Worcester Railroad,	\$180 00
July.	Dividend on same,	180 00
		<hr/>
		\$360 00

No dividend received on the other stocks during the past year.

HARVEY DODGE,

Treasurer of the Lyman Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, November 30, 1855.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School:—

GENTLEMEN,—I herewith present to you the Ninth Annual Report of this Institution, embracing a history of its progress during the past year, and giving, in connection with former reports, valuable information in a convenient form for reference:—

TABLE 1.

Showing the Number received and the general State of the School for the year ending November 30, 1855.

Boys in School December 1, 1854,	559	
“ since committed,	288	
Apprentices returned by masters,	26	
“ who left their masters and were arrested and returned,	4	
“ who had left their masters and returned voluntarily,	2	
Boys who had escaped, arrested and returned,	2	
	—	34
Whole number in School during the year,	—	881
Boys discharged or apprenticed,	284	
“ remanded on alternative sentence,	9	
“ returned to masters,	2	
“ Escaped,	2	
“ Died,	3	
	—	300
Remaining in School November 30, 1855,		581

The nine boys remanded were so young, or mentally deficient, that their continuance in the Institution was considered inconsistent with its purposes, and prejudicial to its interests.

TABLE 2.

Showing the Commitments from the several Counties the past year and previously.

COUNTIES.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable,	3	3	6
Berkshire,	11	41	52
Bristol,	33	120	153
Dukes,	—	2	2
Essex,	62	255	317
Franklin,	3	7	10
Hampden,	18	72	90
Hampshire,	4	14	18
Middlesex,	38	245	283
Nantucket,	2	9	11
Norfolk,	35	97	132
Plymouth,	4	15	19
Suffolk,	53	306	359
Worcester,	22	143	165
Totals,	288	1,329	1,617

TABLE 3.

Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and average number for each month in the year.

MONTHS.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Average No.
December, 1854,	21	13	565.7
January, 1855,	28	10	575.
February, "	15	8	591.
March, "	21	46	580.
April, "	31	52	557.
May, "	29	38	538.
June, "	18	35	530.
July, "	36	19	527.
August, "	46	17	552.7
September, "	40	26	568 6
October, "	24	26	582.7
November, "	13	10	576.
Totals,	322	300	

TABLE 4.

Showing the disposal of those discharged the past year and previously.

DISPOSAL.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Discharged by Board of Trustees, .	90	201	291
“ on expiration of sentence, .	35	72	107
Remanded on alternative sentence, .	9	60	69
Indentured to Farmers and Gardeners, .	45	173	218
“ Carpenters, . . .	5	24	29
“ Bakers, . . .	1	4	5
“ Silver Platers, . . .	—	6	6
“ Cabinet Makers, . . .	—	6	6
“ Pianoforte Makers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Shoe Tool Makers, . . .	—	2	2
“ Mahogany Chair Makers, . . .	—	2	2
“ Trunkmakers, . . .	—	3	3
“ Sawmakers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Sailmakers, . . .	—	2	2
“ Boot and Shoemakers, . . .	69	163	232
“ Pump and Block Makers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Sleighmakers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Harness Makers, . . .	1	3	4
“ Combmakers, . . .	1	2	3
“ Musical Instrument Makers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Tin and Sheet Iron Workers, . . .	—	3	3
“ Tailors, . . .	3	7	10
“ Machinists, . . .	3	6	9
“ Ship Carp'trs & Boatbuilders, . . .	1	3	4
“ Engravers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Merchants, . . .	—	3	3
“ Painters, . . .	1	9	10
“ Plumbers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Masons, . . .	2	8	10
“ Bookbinders, . . .	—	1	1
“ Butchers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Veneer Sawyers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Clerks, . . .	3	1	4
“ Blacksmiths, . . .	—	9	9
“ Japanners, . . .	—	1	1
“ Riggers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Tanners and Curriers, . . .	3	4	7
“ Stonecutters, . . .	—	2	2
“ Wheelwrights, . . .	1	2	3
“ Barbers, . . .	2	8	10
“ Printers, . . .	—	4	4
“ Coopers, . . .	—	5	5
“ Sea Captains, . . .	5	2	7
“ Engineers, . . .	—	1	1
“ Wood Turners, . . .	—	1	1
“ Attend School, . . .	5	14	19

TABLE 4—Continued.

DISPOSAL.		Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Indentured to	Boiler Makers, . . .	—	2	2
"	Cotton Manufacturers, . . .	—	2	2
"	Brass Moulders, . . .	—	1	1
"	Daguerreotype Artists, . . .	—	1	1
"	Brass Founders, . . .	—	2	2
"	Paper Hangers, . . .	1	—	1
"	Fresco Cleaners, . . .	1	—	1
"	Millers, . . .	1	—	1
"	Clergymen, . . .	1	—	1
"	Filemakers, . . .	1	—	1
"	Mast and Sparmakers, . . .	1	—	1
"	Lumber Dealers, . . .	1	—	1
"	Marble Workers, . . .	1	—	1
		159		
Discharged by order of Court, . . .		—	6	6
Returned to Masters, . . .		2	8	10
Escaped, . . .		2	7	9
Died, . . .		3	20	23
Totals, . . .		300	876	1,176

As yet, but few of those who have been indentured have served out their terms of apprenticeship; but, hereafter, the number will be increasing from year to year. A few have completed their terms the past year, and have returned to this their home in days gone by, and have started from here to try for themselves the stern realities of life, giving fair promise of future usefulness.

Although the number of apprentices is yearly increasing, and in no small ratio, still the number returned by masters is nearly 25 per cent. less the past year than the year previous. Quite a number of these were boys who, when they were apprenticed, were considered doubtful; but, having been long in the Institution, it seemed desirable to give them a trial, and they were therefore indentured with provision for their return in case they should prove bad boys. The interference of parents and relatives has, in a number of instances, caused some of the most promising boys to leave their masters, which has finally resulted in their return to the Institution.

Very little complaint has been made, either by apprentices or their friends, of bad treatment on the part of masters. And

it is confidently believed, that, with few exceptions, those who have been indentured, and those who have been discharged by "Trustees," are placed in situations adapted to their condition and character, from which they will come forth in due time, prepared for the business, and fortified to resist the temptations of life.

While ourselves and an interested public are, from time to time, pained to learn, through the public journals and otherwise, that "Graduates from the Reform School" have been arrested for crime, still it should be remembered that these constitute but a very small portion of the number who have left us. And that there are now hundreds placed with farmers, and with masters of the various mechanic arts, scattered over our own and neighboring States, who are quietly attending to their various duties, and performing their daily tasks, unknown, some of them, even to their nearest neighbors, as "Graduates" of our Institution.

TABLE 5.

Showing the length of time the boys had been in the School, who left during the past year, and also during the preceding year.

					Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Remanded	Instanter,	.	.	.	—	1	1
In School	1 Month,	.	.	.	5	5	10
"	2 Months,	.	.	.	5	4	9
"	3 "	.	.	.	5	3	7
"	4 "	.	.	.	4	5	9
"	5 "	.	.	.	5	2	7
"	6 "	.	.	.	3	10	13
"	7 "	.	.	.	5	1	6
"	8 "	.	.	.	7	5	12
"	9 "	.	.	.	5	6	13
"	10 "	.	.	.	6	5	11
"	11 "	.	.	.	7	4	11
"	12 "	.	.	.	40	26	66
"	13 "	.	.	.	14	6	20
"	14 "	.	.	.	11	7	18
"	15 "	.	.	.	10	4	14
"	16 "	.	.	.	10	6	16
"	17 "	.	.	.	14	4	18
"	18 "	.	.	.	16	5	21
"	19 "	.	.	.	6	6	12
"	20 "	.	.	.	9	6	15
"	21 "	.	.	.	7	3	10

TABLE 5—Continued.

					Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
In School	22	Months,	.	.	11	5	16
"	23	"	.	.	11	7	18
"	24	"	.	.	18	9	27
"	25	"	.	.	6	7	13
"	26	"	.	.	6	4	10
"	27	"	.	.	7	3	10
"	28	"	.	.	3	2	5
"	29	"	.	.	2	2	4
"	30	"	.	.	5	5	10
"	31	"	.	.	4	2	6
"	32	"	.	.	3	1	4
"	33	"	.	.	1	2	3
"	34	"	.	.	1	3	4
"	35	"	.	.	1	—	1
"	36	"	.	.	1	5	6
"	37	"	.	.	3	—	3
"	38	"	.	.	1	2	3
"	39	"	.	.	1	2	3
"	40	"	.	.	3	5	8
"	41	"	.	.	1	4	5
"	42	"	.	.	1	1	2
"	43	"	.	.	1	1	2
"	44	"	.	.	—	3	3
"	45	"	.	.	—	1	1
"	46	"	.	.	1	2	3
"	47	"	.	.	1	3	4
"	48	"	.	.	—	1	1
"	49	"	.	.	—	1	1
"	50	"	.	.	2	—	2
"	52	"	.	.	—	3	3
"	54	"	.	.	—	1	1
"	55	"	.	.	—	1	1
"	56	"	.	.	—	1	1
"	60	"	.	.	3	—	3
"	63	"	.	.	1	—	1
"	64	"	.	.	—	1	1
"	65	"	.	.	1	—	1
"	66	"	.	.	2	1	3
"	70	"	.	.	1	—	1
"	72	"	.	.	2	—	2
Totals,	.	.	.	.	300	215	515

Average, nearly $19\frac{2}{3}$ Months.

TABLE 6.

Showing by what authority committed.

COMMITTED.					Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas,	.	.	.	.	12	76	88
" Boston Municipal Court,	.	.	.	.	18	128	143
" " Police "	.	.	.	.	32	165	197
" Blackstone " "	.	.	.	.	1	-	1
" Cambridge " "	.	.	.	.	7	1	8
" Chicopee " "	.	.	.	.	1	-	1
" Chelsea " "	.	.	.	.	2	-	2
" Fall River " "	.	.	.	.	18	27	45
" Haverhill " "	.	.	.	.	3	-	3
" Lawrence " "	.	.	.	.	15	51	66
" Lowell " "	.	.	.	.	-	70	70
" Lynn " "	.	.	.	.	7	26	33
" Milford " "	.	.	.	.	2	-	2
" Newburyport " "	.	.	.	.	4	46	50
" New Bedford " "	.	.	.	.	6	45	51
" Pittsfield " "	.	.	.	.	6	26	32
" Roxbury " "	.	.	.	.	4	-	4
" Salem " "	.	.	.	.	14	88	102
" Springfield " "	.	.	.	.	7	18	25
" Taunton " "	.	.	.	.	3	12	15
" Worcester " "	.	.	.	.	16	61	77
" Justices of the Peace,	.	.	.	.	110	492	602
Totals,	.	.	.	.	288	1,329	1,617

TABLE 7.

Showing the offences of those committed the past year and previously.

OFFENCES.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Larceny,	94	454	548
Stubbornness,	129	566	695
Idle and Disorderly,	14	57	71
Vagrancy,	18	81	99
Shopbreaking and Stealing,	—	27	27
Housebreaking,	—	12	12
Burglary,	1	8	9
Shopbreaking with intent to steal,	—	25	25
Pilfering,	—	11	11
Having obscene books and prints for circulation,	—	2	2
Common drunkards,	1	5	6
Malicious mischief,	5	30	35
Assault,	1	5	6
Trespass,	—	7	7
Arson,	—	3	3
Runaway,	4	13	17
Robbery from person,	—	4	4
Quarrelling and profanity,	—	1	1
Assault and battery,	3	8	11
Forgery,	3	1	4
Concealing stolen goods,	—	1	1
Attempt at larceny,	—	1	1
“ robbery,	—	1	1
Barnburning,	—	1	1
Breaking and entering with intent to steal,	12	5	17
Burning a building,	1	—	1
Attempt to pass counterfeit money,	1	—	1
Giving spirits to a person under arrest,	1	—	1
Totals,	288	1,329	1,617

TABLE 8.

Showing the length of sentences the past year and previously.

SENTENCED.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	179	990	1,169
Until 20 years of age,	—	5	5
“ 19 “ “	—	1	1
“ 18 “ “	3	6	9
“ 17 “ “	1	4	5
“ 14 “ “	1	1	2
For one year,	18	68	86
“ “ and six months,	—	5	5
“ two years,	23	73	96
“ “ and six months,	1	2	3
“ three years,	22	82	104
“ four “	18	38	56
“ “ and six months,	—	1	1
“ five “	16	27	43
“ six “	5	15	20
“ seven “	1	1	2
“ eight “	—	7	7
“ nine “	—	1	1
“ ten “	—	2	2
Totals,	288	1,329	1,617

TABLE 9.

Showing the length of Alternative Sentences the past year and previously.

SENTENCED.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	2	12	14
For 7 years,	—	1	1
“ 5 “ and 3 months,	—	1	1
“ 5 “	—	4	4
“ 4 “	—	10	10
“ 3 “ and 6 months,	—	1	1
“ 3 “	2	18	20
“ 2 “ and 6 months,	—	2	2
“ 2 “	5	64	69
“ 1 year and 6 months,	3	15	18
“ 1 “ “ 3 “	1	18	19
“ 1 “	11	63	74
“ 10 months,	—	3	3
“ 9 “	2	3	5
“ 8 “	—	5	5
“ 6 “	71	359	430
“ 5 “	3	10	13
“ 4 “	5	32	37
“ 3 “	39	205	244
“ 2 “	49	249	298
“ 40 days,	—	1	1
“ 1 month,	73	182	255
“ less than 1 month,	21	71	92
“ unexpired portion of sentence,	1	—	1
Totals,	288	1,329	1,617

TABLE 10.

Showing the Nativity of those committed this year and previously.

NATIVITY.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Born in Ireland,	52	142	194
“ New Brunswick,	2	37	39
“ England,	5	25	30
“ Canada,	2	9	11
“ Nova Scotia,	6	15	21
“ Scotland,	—	5	5
“ France,	—	1	1
“ Germany,	1	—	1
“ Italy,	1	—	1
“ West Indies,	—	2	2
Foreigners,	69	236	305
Born in Massachusetts,	173	878	1,051
“ Maine,	8	54	62
“ New Hampshire,	7	39	46
“ Vermont,	3	28	31
“ New York,	18	41	59
“ Connecticut,	2	16	18
“ Rhode Island,	3	19	22
“ Maryland,	—	4	4
“ New Jersey,	—	4	4
“ Pennsylvania,	—	5	5
“ Virginia,	3	3	6
“ Louisiana,	—	1	1
“ Illinois,	2	1	3
Natives,	219	1,093	1,312
Foreigners,			305
Natives,			1,312
Total,			1,617

Of 1,312 born in the United States, 909 are of American parentage, 334 of Irish, 43 of English, 11 of French, 10 of Scotch, 4 of German, and 1 of Danish.

TABLE 11.

Showing the ages of boys when committed.

AGE.					Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Six	years,	.	.	.	—	3	3
Seven	"	.	.	.	1	9	10
Eight	"	.	.	.	9	36	45
Nine	"	.	.	.	13	67	80
Ten	"	.	.	.	29	128	157
Eleven	"	.	.	.	32	151	183
Twelve	"	.	.	.	29	179	208
Thirteen	"	.	.	.	60	193	253
Fourteen	"	.	.	.	42	236	278
Fifteen,	"	.	.	.	52	263	315
Sixteen	"	.	.	.	12	37	49
Seventeen years and over,		.	.	.	6	19	25
Unknown, .	.	.	.	.	3	8	11
Totals,					288	1,329	1,617

Average age $12\frac{3}{4}$ years, nearly.

As the Chaplain's Report will fully embrace the moral and religious condition of the Institution, and the domestic influences and circumstances which have operated in the committal of its inmates, these subjects will here be omitted. The moral classification of the School has been continued, and the good results anticipated have been to a good degree realized. No material change has been made in the general management of the Institution. Stated holidays have all been observed, which have, as usual, been sources of real enjoyment to the boys.

AVERAGE EMPLOYMENT.

Number in contractor's shop,	.	.	.	.	140.1
" in shoemaking and repairing shop,	.	.	.	.	16.
" in knitting room,	.	.	.	.	48.1
" in sewing room,	.	.	.	.	125.5
" in farming, gardening, &c.,	.	.	.	.	94.4

Number in laundry and scrubbing, and work about	
house,	78.1
“ in kitchen, cooking and baking,	28.6
Miscellaneous,	21.7
Sick,	10.
	<hr/>
	562.5

SHOE DEPARTMENT.

This department consists, as heretofore, of three shops, two occupied by the contractors.

The same contract continues, but the copartnership expiring by limitation, the responsibilities are assumed by Comstock, Cole & Co., instead of Gilmore & Cole. An average of 140.1 boys have been employed in these shops, and have made 161,197 pairs of shoes. The other shop is occupied in making and repairing shoes, with an average of 16 boys, who have been employed in performing the following amount of labor:—

The closing of 926 pairs of shoes.

The stitching of 3,024 pairs of boots.

The making of 782 pairs of shoes.

The repairing of 4,705 pairs of boots and shoes.

SEWING AND KNITTING ROOMS.

An average of 173.6 boys have been employed in this department, and the following amount of labor has been performed, as per reports of the ladies in charge.

Made 1,203 jackets,	Made 305 towels,
1,750 pairs pants,	256 aprons,
134 vests,	590 pairs suspenders;
1,500 shirts,	571 flannel shirts,
2,016 pairs socks,	44 comforters,
191 “ mittens,	140 handkerchiefs,
92 bedticks,	20 curtains,
37 pillows,	2 table cloths,
73 pillow cases,	622 night shirts,
131 sheets,	36 napkins,
272 spreads,	30 bags,
918 caps,	75 holders.

Whole number made during the year, 10,882.

Repaired 4,104 jackets,	Repaired 312 bed ticks,
7,025 shirts,	438 aprons,
4,415 pairs socks,	169 caps,
320 sheets and spreads,	20 comforters.

Whole number repaired during the year, 16,903.

LAUNDRY.

The average number employed in this department is 39.5. The number of articles washed and ironed will not vary much from 184,785.

FARM.

The farm has remained by contract under the charge of the Board of Agriculture through the year. A larger number of boys than heretofore (though still less than was hoped) have been employed in this department.

SCHOOLS.

The same organization of schools has been continued as last year. The two highest schools constitute a first class; the next two in grade a second class; the next two a third, and the two lowest schools a fourth class. The first class attends to algebra, practical arithmetic, astronomy, geography, physiology, history, reading and spelling.

The second class attends to practical arithmetic, geography, reading and spelling.

The third class embraces those who can read in easy lessons, and are prepared to begin mental arithmetic and geography.

The fourth class comprises beginners in reading and spelling. This class is taught orally in arithmetic and geography.

All are instructed in writing, and lessons in singing are regularly given.

The commendable improvement of these schools during the year, bears competent testimony to the faithfulness and efficiency of the teachers who have been employed.

Those committed the past year have entered each class, as follows :—

	1st Div'n.	2d Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
Entered 1st Class, . . .	5	10	10	10	35
“ 2d “ . . .	4	14	17	4	39
“ 3d “ . . .	6	10	20	51	87
“ 4th “ . . .	20	42	48	17	127
					288

Those discharged this year were from the following classes :—

	1st Div'n.	2d Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
Discharged from 1st Class, . . .	44	33	43	17	137
“ “ 2d “ . . .	23	18	17	3	61
“ “ 3d “ . . .	18	16	14	6	54
“ “ 4th “ . . .	10	11	7	20	48
					300

The following have been promoted to higher classes :—

	4th Division.	3d Division.	2d Division.	1st Division.
Promoted from 4th Class, . . .	114	108	110	120
“ “ 3d “ . . .	140	133	130	132
“ “ 2d “ . . .	35	105	110	103
“ “ 1st “ . . .	54	57	22	

Present number in each class :—

	1st Div'n.	2d Div'n.	3d Div'n.	4th Div'n.	Total.
Number in 1st Class, . . .	22	45	28	49	144
“ “ 2d “ . . .	32	45	46	15	138
“ “ 3d “ . . .	29	42	36	45	153
“ “ 4th “ . . .	39	38	37	33	147
					581

Present number in school,	581
Of these, read books generally, with more or less correctness,	454
Read in easy lessons and write after copies,	85
Read in monosyllables and write after copies,	42
Have studied practical arithmetic,	231
“ “ mental arithmetic,	203
“ “ Greenleaf’s Common School Arithmetic in Simple Rules,	30
“ “ through Simple Rules,	57
“ “ “ Reduction,	49
“ “ “ Compound numbers,	28
“ “ “ Fractions,	29
“ “ “ Interest,	16
“ “ “ the book,	22
“ “ Geography,	434
“ “ History United States,	22
“ “ Physiology,	8
“ “ Astronomy,	13
“ “ Algebra,	12
Write on paper,	454
“ “ slates,	127

The Physician’s Report will embrace the sanitary condition of the Institution, which has been such, through the greater part of the year, as to call on us for sincere expressions of gratitude to the Giver of all our blessings.

To those ladies and gentlemen of Westboro’, who have, during the year, (some for a term of years) acted as teachers in our Sabbath School, we tender our thanks. May their reward be that of him who “goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed.”

We again record our indebtedness to those valued friends who have continued to bestow, gratuitously, valuable books, papers and periodicals, which are always sought with much eagerness by our youthful charge. We especially mention the following journals and periodicals, which have been regularly received:—“Youth’s Companion,” “Child’s Paper,” “Sunday School Journal,” “American Weekly Traveller,” “Massachusetts Spy,” “Cataract,” “National Ægis,” “Lowell Ameri-

can," "Cambridge Chronicle," "Salem Register," "Prisoner's Friend," "Assistant of the Ministry at Large," "New England Farmer," "Pennsylvania Journal of Prison Discipline," and, for the last part of the year, the "Hingham Journal." Also, to John Ball, Esq., of Salem, and Otis Norcross, Esq., of Boston, for valuable miscellaneous papers.

Commending the interests of this "charity" to the care of Him, without whom "not a sparrow falleth," I would, in conclusion to you, gentlemen, for your constant sympathy and advice amid the varied trials and duties of the year, and to those of my associates who have co-operated with me in carrying forward the objects of the Institution, tender my most sincere thanks.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES M. TALCOTT,
Superintendent.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, Westboro', }
November 30, 1855. }

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School, the Chaplain respectfully submits his Sixth Annual Report.

GENTLEMEN:—I have collected such facts, touching the moral, domestic and social condition of the subjects admitted since the last annual report, as could be obtained by a private examination of each, and from such other sources as were accessible. They will be found in the tabular statements annexed, and may be regarded as reliable, so far as they extend; though it is not to be doubted that a more thorough knowledge of the real history of many, would disclose a greater amount of misfortune and moral degradation than is here presented.

The parentage is as follows:—

	1855.	Previously.	Total.
The whole number received is	288	1,329	1,617
Who have lost father,	79	371	450
Who have lost mother,	57	193	250
Who have lost both parents,	24	120	144
Whose fathers are without occupation, .	90	497	587
Whose fathers are intemperate, . . .	99	400	499
Whose mothers are intemperate, . . .	—	20	20
Whose parents are both intemperate, .	19	158	177
Whose parents' example is otherwise morally pernicious,	151	718	869
Who have or have had one or more members of their families in penal or reformatory institutions,	88	359	447

The following Table exhibits the Habits, Delinquencies and Arrests.

	1855.	Previously.	Total.
The whole number received is	288	1,329	1,617
Were mostly idle previous to admission,	195	1,182	1,377
Were untruthful,	267	1,272	1,539
Used profane language,	244	1,180	1,424
Used obscene language,	166	1,032	1,198
Were truants,	102	1,114	1,216
Were Sabbath-breakers,	175	1,014	1,189
Never attended Sabbath School,	29	247	276
Were irregular or occasional attendants,	252	857	1,109
Had a companionship more or less intimate with each other previous to admission,	245	1,044	1,289
Had frequented places of questionable amusement,	136	886	1,022
Had slept out at night in stables, sheds, boxes, and similar places,	111	721	832
Had used tobacco,	98	650	748
Had drank intoxicating liquors, many of them to excess,	51	433	484
Had been previously arrested once,	44	280	324
Had been previously arrested twice,	10	103	113
Had been previously arrested three times,	10	45	55
Had been previously arrested four times,	2	21	23
Had been previously arrested five times or more,	2	48	50
Whole number previously arrested,	68	499	567
Had been in prisons, houses of detention, or reformatory schools,	41	381	422

The statements contained in this table cover an average period of delinquency of eighteen months, for the year just closed. This is shorter by some months than in any previous year. The number of cases of arrest and imprisonment is also proportionably much smaller.

One hundred and fifty-one, or about one-half, were committed on the complaint of their parents or near relatives, or at their request. These constitute, for the most part, the cases of stubbornness reported. A large majority of this class of subjects have been guilty of graver offences; and the complaint of the parent, in many instances, was made, to prevent a more serious charge being preferred by others.

Fifteen hundred and fifty dollars, obtained by a lad fourteen years of age, by forging the signature of his employers to a check, taken from a letter, is the largest sum ascertained to have been purloined in any single instance.

These facts, as a whole, indicate the reception of a better class of boys than in previous years; and, in their education and training, the school may be regarded as more truly fulfilling the design of its early friend and benefactor, and as rendering a better service to the Commonwealth, than in wasting its means and energies upon the more hardened and depraved. Facts are not wanting in its history, brief though its history be, which demonstrate the impracticability, at least, of attempting to reclaim here, a class of offenders, well known to those to whose lot it has fallen to deal with them. When the school was first opened, and during the first year of its existence, quite a large number of these boys were committed. The cities and larger towns, from which they were mostly sent, had suffered long and much from them; and they were generally from the lowest stratum of society. Leagued together for plunder, and, in some instances, the accomplices of adult rogues, their depredations upon property, in numerous ways, had been extensive; and though frequently arrested, they had usually been released by the police officer or constable, after a short detention, or dismissed by the justice with a reprimand or the imposition of a small fine, on account of their youth, or, when it could not well be avoided, sentenced to a brief imprisonment. By this process, in their own estimation, and agreeably to the observation of others, they were accelerated in a vicious and criminal career, and acquired a keener relish for the mode of life upon which they had entered. Either from misapprehension of the object of the Reform School, and its facilities for the discipline and management of various grades of juvenile offenders, or, from a desire to place them where they would longest be kept from the communities in which they lived, these boys were consigned to its care, at an age most unsuitable, and with habits too thoroughly confirmed, to render their presence safe with those for whom the institution was designed. Defying authority, or watching an opportunity to escape, it was soon found that their example and influence were eminently pernicious, and could not be tolerated. Some of them were immediately

remanded; and two recalled by the courts, and sentenced to places better suited to their age and offences. Others were suffered to remain, with the hope that they might be won to an honorable and high-minded course of conduct, and thus saved; but, after a fair trial, having shown themselves incorrigible, they, too, were thrown upon their alternative sentence. Others still, somewhat younger, but quite as dangerous and hopeless, as the result proved, enjoyed the advantages of the school for various periods,—some of them for years; and were finally disposed of, as seemed most conducive to their future integrity and well-being. With very few exceptions, they have all continued to pursue the same course of life; some, indeed, as might be expected, advancing farther than others. Of the ten hundred and thirty-six who have left, I have ascertained that one hundred and fifty, or about one-seventh, have since been criminally convicted. Of these, nearly one hundred, or about three-fifths, are of those who entered the school during the first year; and they were generally before the courts soon after they were discharged or apprenticed, whether they remained here for a longer or shorter time. Among them, are twenty-three of the twenty-nine who have been sent to State prisons; one for life, and the rest for terms varying from one to eighteen years. One is now serving out his eleventh, and another his thirteenth sentence, since leaving the school.

In view of these facts, it is to be regretted that the courts have continued to send subjects, occasionally, quite as hopeless as those to whom allusion has been made. In most instances, their age barely entitles them to admission, and is often accommodated for the time to the peculiar exigencies of the case, agreeably to their own wishes or the wishes of friends, to spare them the stigma of having “been sent to the House of Correction,” or, to test the efficacy of a new mode of treatment. The reluctant obedience and persistent recklessness of such boys, and their exaggerated recital of deeds of crime and ignoble daring, must be deep and lasting in its influence upon those with whom they may chance to associate. With a building so constructed as to admit of more extensive classification, their contact with others might be avoided, and their reclamation secured, perhaps, by a more rigid supervision, and a sterner discipline, as occasion required. But, mingling with the mass,

the tendency is rather to corrupt others than to be improved by their better general example and conduct; and it were far better that such put on the felon's garb in appropriate places of confinement, than that hundreds of susceptible and less contaminated minds, should be placed in such fearful jeopardy.

We may remember with pleasure, that while some have failed to reach positions of respectability, many and more are as faultless in their habits and character as boys generally, and are winning the esteem and confidence of the families with whom their lot is cast, and of the communities in which they live. Favorable reports have continued to reach us from masters, and through other channels of information perfectly reliable. Three are pursuing studies with reference to a liberal education, and are nearly prepared for a collegiate course. We have received visits from quite a number, during the year, whose whole appearance indicated a new mode of life, and whom we may expect to see useful citizens. One called on the day he became of age; having served his apprenticeship to the entire satisfaction of his master, and with honor to himself and to the institution, which became his guardian under circumstances, and at a time of life, when he would probably have plunged into irretrievable ruin, but for its fostering care. Well-dressed, with one hundred dollars in his pocket,—the reward of his faithful service, his mind stored with the education of the common school, and his heart throbbing with gratitude for the happy change in his character and prospects, he presented a living illustration of what a wilful, vagrant, thieving boy may become, with proper training and encouragement. Uninfluenced by those who sustain to him the natural relation of friends, but who, in reality, are the worst enemies to his real good, we may anticipate the happiest results in his case; and that a majority of the rest will reach positions of respectability.

The general good health, and the small number of deaths which have occurred during the year, notwithstanding so many were at one time ill with a loathsome and dangerous disease, call for a grateful recognition of the good providence of God.

In common with the ordinary routine of arrangements, the interests of the Sabbath School were considerably paralyzed, while the sickness continued to prevail, and it was thought possible that new cases might occur. For some weeks the exercises

were suspended, and their resumption appeared to be hailed with real pleasure, both by teachers and pupils. From this interruption, about one-fourth less has been accomplished in this department of instruction than would have been realized under ordinary circumstances. During the three-fourths of the year in which the study of the Scriptures was regularly pursued, the whole number of verses committed to memory, and recited in the Sabbath School, was one hundred and eighty thousand seven hundred and thirty-two. The average to each boy, for this period, is four hundred and fifty-two; and for each Sabbath, thirteen. The other religious services were observed as usual.

In this connection, I take pleasure in acknowledging the continued assistance of a large number of teachers from the town, whose services are cheerfully given to the Sabbath School, and to bear testimony to their uniform fidelity and devotion to the work. Many of them have furnished their classes with books, papers, and money for the holidays. Deacon A. Wilbur, of Boston, has sent twenty copies of "The Young Reaper" to my address, and I have occasionally received parcels of reading matter from others; all of which have been distributed. For this remembrance of the boys they have their thanks and ours.

I close this Report with the single remark, that it is a source of gratification to know, that, while Massachusetts,—seconded by the noble liberality of one of her most benevolent and honored citizens, was the first to establish a State Reform School exclusively for boys; with the material co-operation of many of her sons, she is also the first to found a similar institution exclusively for girls; and to introduce, in the arrangement and construction of its buildings, a principle of classification, hitherto unknown in this country, but which must commend itself to the observation and experience of all who have come in contact with this class of children and youth, as best fitted to secure a speedy and thorough reformation. May the work be attended with no uncertain success.

P. LINCOLN CUSHING.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, Westboro', Mass., }
November 30, 1855. }

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

WESTBORO', December 1, 1855.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School:—

GENTLEMEN:—As the period has arrived when it becomes my duty to give an account of the health of this institution, I would respectfully present the following Report for the closing financial year:—

A greater amount of time has been lost by sickness the present year than usual; much of the confinement, however, has been merely precautionary against the spread of the contagion of smallpox. This disease made its appearance for the first time in this Institution, January 15th. A careful revaccination of the whole school and officers was immediately determined upon, and was soon effected by the assistance of the Superintendent. Between ninety and one hundred were subjects of the disease, before it left us; but, fortunately, with but one exception of slight importance, all the officers and families in the neighborhood escaped. The last one seized was on February 20th. All but four broke out with it within the first three weeks, proving, it would seem, the useful results of revaccination and seclusion from the healthy. Not more than three or four had variola or simple smallpox. The remainder were varioloid, or cases in which vaccination had been effective. One died of lung fever, after symptoms of amendment seemed established. This boy had just nearly recovered from severe and long continued inflammation of the eyes when taken with the smallpox.

Inflammation of the respiratory organs in some form prevailed to a considerable extent during April and May. Eight of these were cases of lung fever.

Several boys have been under medical care for rheumatism, and also inflammation of the eyes, either of the acute or chronic form.

There have been two deaths during the year, besides the one above noted ; one from congenital hernia, and one from disease of the heart.

HENRY H. RISING, M. D.

APPENDIX.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM MASTERS, &c., RELATIVE TO BOYS WHO HAVE BEEN APPRENTICES.

December 20, 1854.

Dear Sir:—J. has conducted himself satisfactorily during the past year; has done his work cheerfully and well, and thinks his being sent to Westboro' the best thing that was ever done for him. He has attended church every Sabbath during the last year.

February 7, 1855.

Dear Sir:—The boys you indentured to me are in excellent health, and contented and happy with their home. D. has a pleasant disposition, and good morals. He attends Sabbath School regularly, and seems to enjoy it very much.

March 9, 1855.

Dear Sir:—It is now nearly a year since I took D. from your Institution.

He still remains with me; his health has been very good, and his deportment, in the main, correct.

He has been a member of Hopkinton Academy since early in December last, and has made good progress in his studies, obtaining a high number for scholarship and deportment.

He has been regular in his attendance at church and Sabbath School—seems quite contented and happy.

There is reasonable hope, by the blessing of kind Providence, he may make a useful and worthy man.

March 19, 1855.

Dear Sir:—According to the regulations of your Institution, I write to inform you that my son has behaved very well indeed since he has been at home.

March 28, 1855.

Dear Sir:—It is with much pleasure that I am able to say that A. is contented, and becoming strongly attached to the members of my family. He attended school ten weeks, the past winter, and was an obedient and progressive scholar.

He takes a commendable interest in the business of the farm.

April 5, 1855.

Dear Sir:—L. is now in my employ, with the encouragement, if he does well, of sharing with me in the profits of the business.

He is steady, contented and happy. I remember, with gratitude to a kind Providence, the good lessons imparted to him while at the Institution. May heaven smile on you and your numerous family.

April 5, 1855.

Dear Sir:—R.'s conduct has been very good, and he seems satisfied with his employment. He observes the Sabbath, and appears contented and happy.

If he continues to do as well as he has done, I shall pay him one hundred and fifty dollars when he is twenty-one years old.

May 10, 1855.

Dear Sir:—J. has a good place in a store, and has business all around the village, affording him sufficient exercise and good air. He has always done the best he could since he came home. He sends his love to you and all the people at the Institution, and thinks the two years spent there will be the means of making a man of him.

August 27, 1855.

Dear Sir:—C. remains with me, conducts himself well, and has, since coming under my charge. Mr. F. speaks highly of him. C. sends his respects to you and Mr. C.

October 5, 1855.

Dear Sir:—It gives me pleasure to send you a good report of W. He is now in F. with his brother, and is doing well. He seems desirous to redeem his time, and enter into manhood with honor. His health is very good.

October 6, 1855.

Dear Sir:—I am happy to tell you there has been a great change of late in J.'s character.

We now have the pleasure of seeing him in good company, and striving to correct his former bad habits. Should he continue a faithful follower of Christ, I believe we shall see him just what we wish him to be. I should like to take another boy from the Institution soon.

October 8, 1855.

Dear Sir:—I have not had to regret the good instruction which T. received while at the Institution.

He is learning the painter's trade, and the foreman thinks he will make a first rate painter. He attends church with me on the Sabbath, and is doing well.

October 15, 1855.

Dear Sir:—G. has always been an obedient boy, and is growing to be quite a man. He is a very fair scholar, likes his books, and is a great reader.

He has quite an idea of becoming able to teach school before he is of age, and I tell him he shall have all he can earn at it.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM BOYS.

December 26, 1854.

Dear Sir :—I cannot refrain from offering you at this time my sincere thanks for the kindness you exercised towards me while under your care at Westboro'. I think my stay with you there has made a lasting impression on my mind, and I hope ever to revert to the scenes and associations of the Reform School with feelings of the deepest gratitude.

March 2, 1855.

My Dear Friend :—I have been in good health and contented since I left Westboro',—am learning a good trade, and like it very much.

I thank you for the good advice you gave me, and will you still remember to pray for me, that I may meet you in heaven?

AT SEA, April 8, 1855.

My Dear Sir :—I am very well satisfied with my situation on board ship.

The Captain has used me very kindly, and I am thankful to him for it.

I learn something every day, and shall try to improve my mind and morals. I feel sorry I did not improve my precious time more, for I have learned, that to be without education is the same as to be without money; for learning makes the man. I am resolved, that from this time, my motto shall be, honor, virtue and fidelity. My prayer to God is, that I may succeed, and yet make an honorable man.

We have had some very severe storms, and if any one wishes to see man's weakness, and God's power, let him encounter a storm at sea. Tell my mother that I am doing better and better every day.

We are now near port, and when I get in, and have time, I will write you a description of Calcutta.

April 11, 1855.

Dear Sir :—It is with pleasure that I write to let you know how I am getting along. I am well, like my place, and think I am doing pretty well. To-morrow will be Fast day in this State.

I used to go hunting or fishing on Fast day, before I went to Westboro', but now I spend it as I ought, I hope. I am glad I went to the Reform School, for if I had not, perhaps I should have been in the House of Correction or State Prison by *this* time.

Give my respects to Mrs. T. and Mrs. C., and to all the officers of the Institution: also, to all the boys who inquire after me.

April 22, 1855.

Dear Friend :—I have a good place, where I am not surrounded by the temptations of a city life, as I was before I went to Westboro'.

Give my love to all the boys, and tell them I hope they will get as good a place as I have, when they leave the Institution.

May 27, 1855.

Dear Sir :—I have often been called a Reform School boy, of which I now feel proud; for I think the kind instructions which I received there have been the means of saving my soul.

I had many and great faults ; but I now hope I am forgiven for them all, through the blood of Christ.

A year and two months since I entered college at Beloit, and still continue my studies there.

Will you not write, and tell me how the school prospers, and whether the Holy Spirit strives among you. I would rather visit the Institution than my own home.

June 25, 1855.

Dear Sir :—I reached home safely, and was glad to see my friends, but I am not sorry that I went to W. to school. I have not forgotten all you told me while I was there.

Give my love to Miss B. and all the officers.

July 9, 1855.

Mr. A., Dear Sir :—I received your kind letter, and was extremely pleased to hear so good an account of my brother.

If he does well there, I shall be under double obligations to that Institution.

Many a night have I laid awake and thought of that Institution and its officers, and you, sir, shared the greater part of my thoughts, for I believe that you were a guide to lead me from the path of sin, to the path of righteousness.

I love to think of that day when we shall meet around the throne of God, to receive the reward which Christ has prepared for us.

October 1, 1855.

Mr. C., Dear Sir :—You will perhaps be surprised to receive a letter from me at this time, but I feel assured you will always be glad to hear of me, and to know I have not forgotten those principles which you taught me.

Those religious feelings that were instilled into my heart while within the sphere of your influence are even stronger than formerly. In all the vicissitudes of the perilous life I have led for the last two years, whether ploughing the deep before the brisk gales, or tossing about amidst the billows, like a plaything in the arms of old ocean. I have always remembered the lessons of virtue and divine truth that I learned while your pupil. I have been in almost every part of the world, and I hope I have acquired much useful information, by observation and experience, without contracting any vicious habits.

Whatever station I may occupy in after life will all be owing to the good instruction which I received from you. Give my respects to Mr. H. and Mr. A.

October 21, 1855.

Dear Sir :—I have the pleasure to inform you that I am with a good master, and treated with respect in every particular. There is no privilege kept from me ; in short, I like my place well. My motto is faithfulness ; the Lord assist me.

Give my love to the officers of the Institution.

October 24, 1855.

Mr. N., Dear Friend :—I received your welcome letter this afternoon. You wanted to know how I am progressing. I am attending school, and shall probably be ready to enter college next fall. I have come to the conclusion to get an education, and make the practice of medicine my profession.

Please remember me to all my friends.

OFFICERS.

TRUSTEES.

JOHN H. W. PAGE. THOMAS A. GREENE.
G. HOWLAND SHAW. HENRY W. CUSHMAN.
HARVEY DODGE. JOHN A. FITCH.
PERLEY HAMMOND.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

HARVEY DODGE. JOHN H. W. PAGE.
JOHN A. FITCH.

JAMES M. TALCOTT, *Superintendent.*

ORVILLE K. HUTCHINSON, *Assistant-Superintendent.*

AMANDA S. TALCOTT, *Matron.*

MARY K. STANWOOD, *Assistant-Matron.*

REV. P. LINCOLN CUSHING, *Chaplain.*

MOSES O. AYRES, *Steward.*

TEACHERS.

FREDERIC MORRISON. MRS. L. P. CUSHING.
CHARLES H. HUBBARD. MISS D. H. BRADFORD.
CHARLES TALCOTT. MISS E. E. MORSE.
WILLIAM JOHNSON. MISS NANCY PAINE.

OVERSEERS OF WORKSHOPS.

STEPHEN N. BATES. ERASTUS E. LOUD.
HORACE E. BELLOWES.

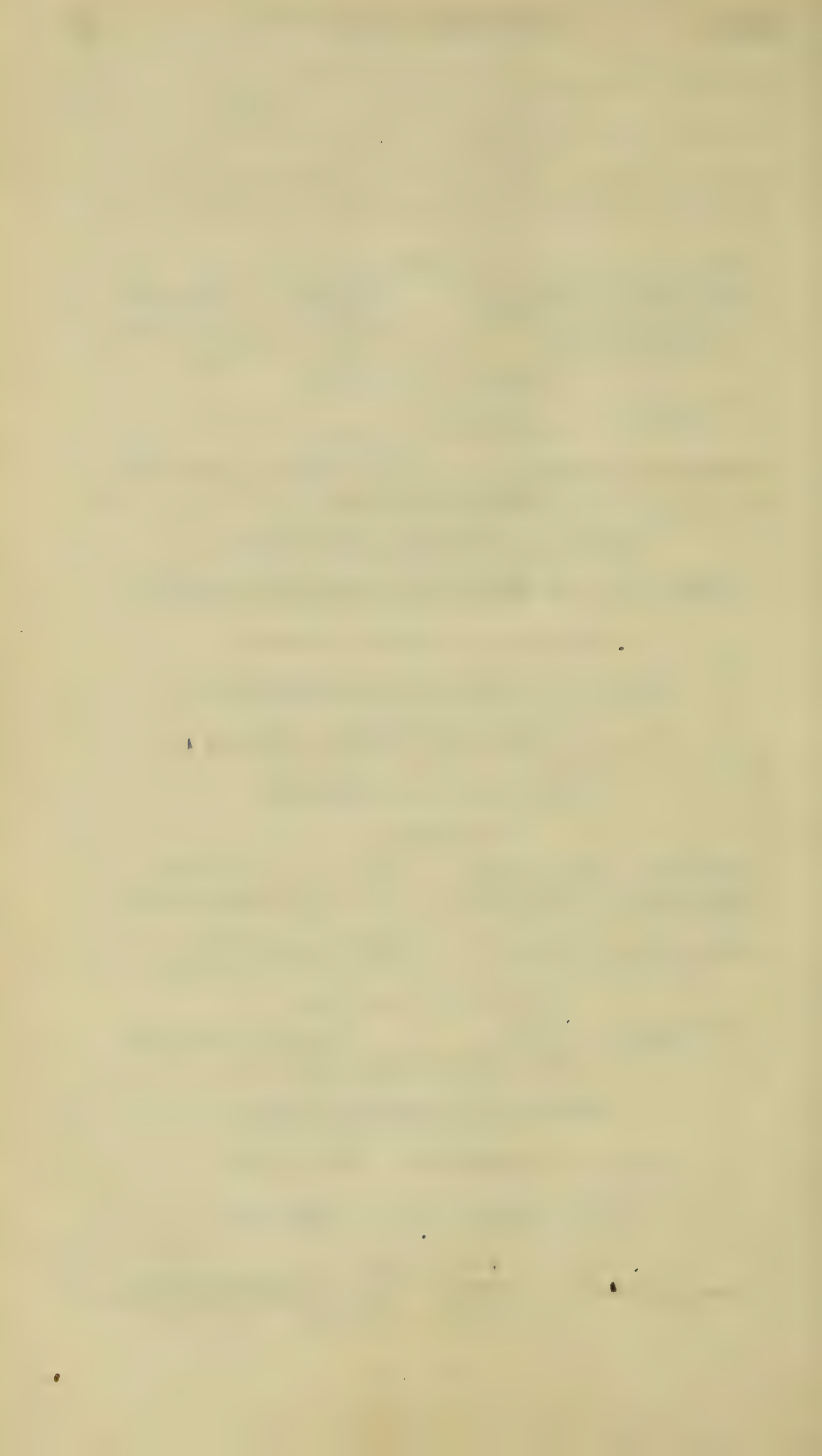
ALBERT J. NEWHALL, *Baker.*

MISS M. L. MORRISON, *Assistant-Baker.*

MRS. ABIGAIL PAIGE, *Laundress.*

SEAMSTRESSES.

MISS MALINDA PALMER. MISS KATE E. COWLS.
MISS OLIVE HODGES.



TENTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

STATE REFORM SCHOOL,

AT WESTBOROUGH,

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOSTON:

WILLIAM WHITE, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1857.



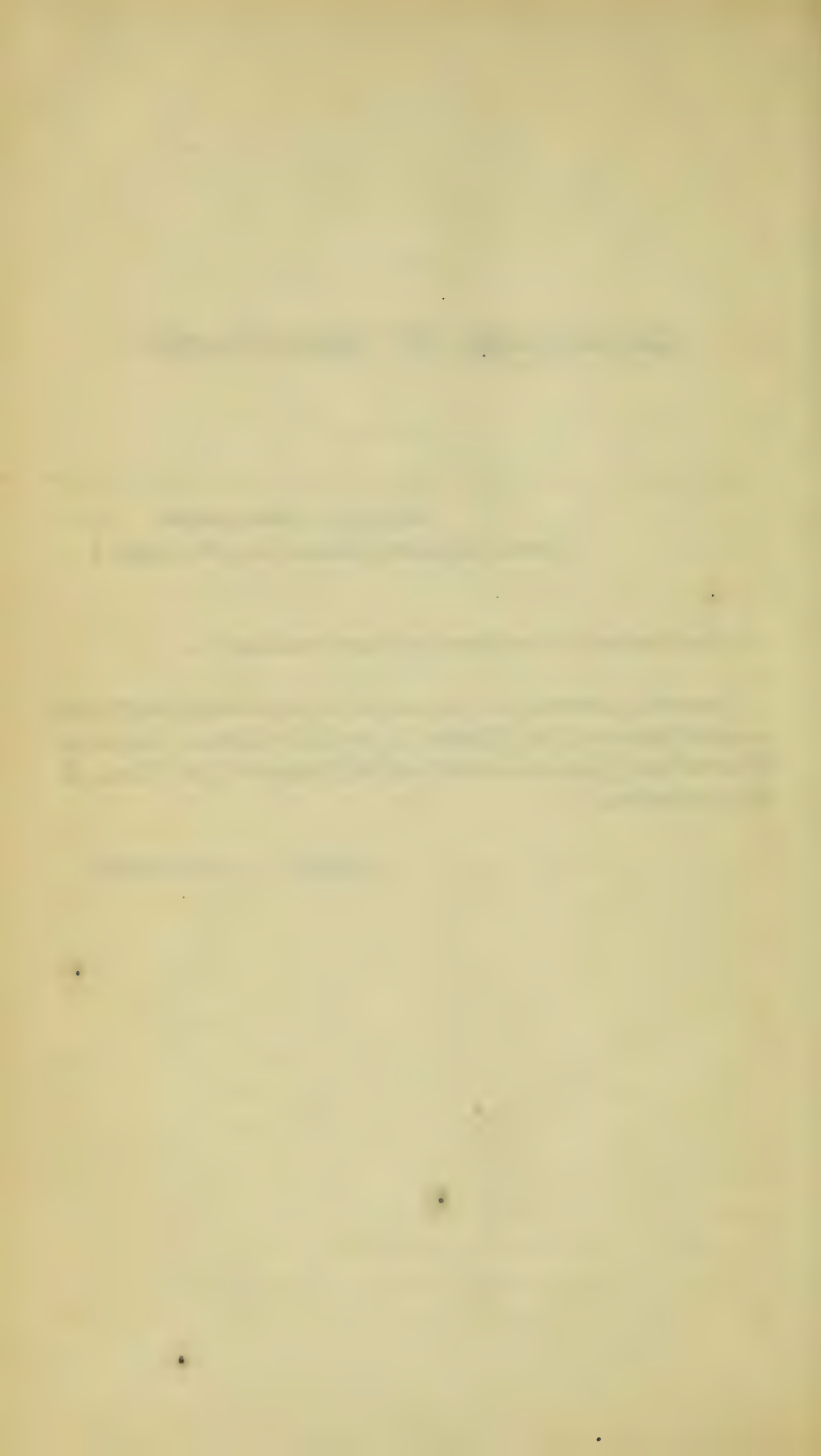
Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
Council Chamber, Boston, Jan. 10, 1857. }

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives :—

I transmit, herewith, for the use of the Legislature, the Tenth Annual Report of the Trustees of the State Reform School, at Westborough, with the accompanying Reports of the Officers of the Institution.

HENRY J. GARDNER.



TENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

The Trustees of the State Reform School respectfully present to the Governor and Council their Tenth Annual Report of the condition of that institution, it being for the year ending November 30th, 1856.

They would make the customary reference to the accompanying reports of the Superintendent, the Chaplain, the Physician, and the Treasurer, for statistical tables and other details in their respective departments. They believe these will be found to be full and satisfactory on the various topics to which they refer.

The management of the farm has continued in the hands of the Board of Agriculture during the past year; and, accordingly, from them and not from us a report of their proceedings and of its condition will be expected.

Notwithstanding the frequent meetings of the Board, which the circumstances of the institution have made necessary, the semi-monthly visits of inspection, required by the original Act of 1847, have been duly made, we believe, without a single exception, during the year. Each Trustee leaves a written report of his visit with the Superintendent, to be recorded in a book kept for this special purpose. This inspection is carefully and thoroughly made. The school-rooms, the work-shops, the sleeping-halls, the hospital, the kitchen, the laundry, the cellars, and indeed all parts of the premises are successively visited and examined, their condition noted in the report, and any improvements which may be proposed, or defects which may require to be remedied, are entered therein. Less than an entire day will hardly suffice for this examination, and in some

instances two days have been appropriated to it. An inspection of these reports would show how faithfully these duties have been performed. At our regular quarterly meetings these reports are read and carefully considered, and any suggestions contained in them, that have not already received the needful attention from the Superintendent or the Executive Committee, are promptly attended to. Another year's experience has fully confirmed us in the salutary tendency of these written and recorded reports of every official visit.

The Executive Committee, beside the subjects specially committed to their charge at the quarterly and other meetings, have the general supervision of the institution whenever the Trustees are not in session. They are a standing committee to be consulted by the Superintendent at all times and in all emergencies. The members of the Board whose residences are not very remote from the establishment, usually constitute this committee, that they may be more readily called upon when advice is necessary, and it will be found, on consulting the record of the Trustees' visits and other memoranda, that the services of these gentlemen are often required, and that the frequency of the calls made upon them is nearly in an inverse ratio to the distance of their residences. Thus the weekly and sometimes the daily visits of these members become an almost indispensable necessity to the right working of this establishment, and much of their time and attention must be devoted thereto.

The important department of school-instruction has not been overlooked or neglected. Since our last Report, two thorough semi-annual examinations have been made, and though it is scarcely practicable to compare beneficially the performances of any school with those of the same school six months ago, when probably more than half the members of the school have been changed during the time, yet at these examinations good evidence of commendable progress was exhibited. We cannot perhaps better show this than by giving the entire report of the examination in November, which was presented by the committee and entered on our records, and is as follows :—

In accordance with an arrangement made at our last quarterly meeting, the 19th and 20th of November were devoted to an examination of the several schools. We commenced in the

morning of the 19th, with the school of Miss Morse, which is the junior school of the new department. To this we gave an hour before breakfast, and one after it. Four classes, the whole school, were heard in reading and spelling. Three of them in arithmetic and one in geography. In conclusion, the school was addressed by Messrs. Greene & Fitch, the two members of the committee in attendance. Number of scholars, 72, of whom 50 had been received by commitment since the last examination, and 22 only were then present. The appearance of this school was very fair.

Mr. Hubbard's school was examined in the forenoon between nine and twelve o'clock. Four classes, the whole school, were examined in reading and spelling, geography and arithmetic, by the same two gentlemen, both of whom addressed the school. Number of scholars, 77. Of these, 19 had been received by commitment, and 42 by promotion since the former examination, and only 16 were then present. This school appears to be in good condition, and making fair improvement. Mr. Hubbard has tendered his resignation, and his place must be supplied at an early day.

To Miss Bradford's school we devoted the afternoon from quarter past one, to quarter past four. Here also the four classes were examined in reading and spelling, geography and arithmetic. Number of scholars, 75. Of these 26 were present at the former examination, 40 have been received since by promotion and 9 by commitment. The appearance and condition of this school were satisfactory. Messrs. Fitch and Greene severally addressed it at the conclusion.

Mr. Johnson's was examined from half past five to half past eight o'clock in the evening. This is the senior school in the east department. The four classes in reading and spelling were first examined; the five classes in arithmetic next, including the whole school in both cases. Then we heard a class in Greene's analysis. Then the whole school, by two divisions, in geography, with some exercises on the outline maps. This school sustains the reputation accorded to its teacher at the last examination, having much improved under his instruction. Present number, 73, of whom 42 were present at the June examination, 25 have since been received by promotion, and 6 by commitment. Messrs. Greene and Fitch addressed the school. Lieut. Gov-

ernor Cushman joined us during this examination. Mr. Sleeper has been with us most of the day, and the Superintendent for a considerable part of the time.

We commenced with Miss Paine's school in the west department on the 20th, spending one hour from six to seven o'clock, before breakfast, and one from eight to nine o'clock after. Present, Fitch and Cushman—Greene most of the time. There were four classes in reading and spelling, though one of these had scarcely advanced far enough to read. Oral arithmetic in one division including all the more advanced scholars. This latter exercise was very satisfactory. Number of boys in school, 73. Of these 25 were here at the last examination, and 48 have been since received by commitment. Mr. Fitch addressed the school.

The third school of this department, Mr. Sullivan's, was examined in the forenoon, between nine and twelve o'clock. The three classes were examined in reading, spelling, writing and arithmetic, concluding with exercises on the outline maps. The order and evident progress of this school were very commendable. Of the 82 members of this school, 63 have been admitted since last examination,—22 by commitment, and 41 by promotion, and only 19 were present at that examination. It was then in charge of Mr. Johnson, who soon after gave place to the present teacher. Beside the committee, Mr. Fayerweather, Rev. Mr. Gage and Mr. Griggs, of the school committee of Westborough, and others, were present. The school was addressed by Messrs. Greene and Gage.

The second school, H. Talcott's, was examined between half past one and half past four o'clock. Present as in the forenoon, with the addition of C. W. Jenks, of Boston. Three classes, all the school, were heard in reading, spelling, and geography; four in arithmetic. This school was formerly very successfully taught by Mrs. Cushing. The present teacher came into office since the last examination, and the school appears to be doing well under his tuition. The number of pupils is 74, only 18 of whom were present last June; 42 have been since received by promotion, and 14 by commitment. Gov. Cushman and Mr. Griggs addressed the school at the close of the exercises.

The highest school, Mr. Charles Talcott's, was examined in the evening, from half past five to nine o'clock. Present, Messrs.

Cushman and Greene of the committee, and Mr. Griggs. The whole school was examined in two classes in reading and spelling. There was one class, about half the school, in geography. Three classes, including the whole school, in arithmetic. One class of ten boys in physiology, the same as the senior class in arithmetic. One class in astronomy. Performances mostly very satisfactory, fully sustaining the previous high reputation of this school. The present number of scholars is 75, 43 of whom were in the school at the last examination; 26 have been received since by promotion, and 6 by commitment. A class in algebra, recently commenced, we did not find time to examine. Messrs. Greene, Griggs and Cushman severally addressed the boys at the close.

Statistical tables of the schools were furnished the committee, prepared by the several teachers; they will accompany this report.

THOMAS A. GREENE, *Chairman.*

WESTBOROUGH, 11th mo. 21st, 1856.

The committee on the library report, that, with the appropriation by legislative Resolve of 1855 of \$150 for this purpose, and the appropriation of \$75 by this Board for 1856, which was authorized by the same Resolve, they have purchased 821 volumes of books for the library of the Reform School. These books have been selected mainly for the benefit and use of the boys. They are generally books of small size, as the average cost of about twenty-seven and a half cents per volume will plainly indicate; some provision, however, for maturer minds have been made in the selection. A small addition to this number of books has been made by donations during the year, as mentioned in the report of the Superintendent; and we would respectfully renew the solicitation contained in our report of last year, that some of our fellow-citizens will, from their abundant stock of material for reading, contribute the spare portion, to supply the cravings of our six hundred youthful and aspiring spirits with proper and sufficient nutriment. The income of the Mary Lamb Fund is, by a vote of the Board, to be applied to the future increase of the library.

The good health which has so generally prevailed among the boys of this School, and especially during the past year, is cause of renewed gratitude to the God and Father of us all, for his abundant mercies. The hospital has been nearly tenantless, except for slight and temporary ailments, during a large part of the time, and only *two* deaths have occurred at the institution since our last report. The watchful care and attention of the nurses who have been in charge of this department merit and receive our commendation.

The Rev. P. Lincoln Cushing resigned the office of Chaplain in March last, to take effect on the 15th of April following. After careful consideration and deliberate inquiry, the vacancy was filled in June, by the appointment of Rev. Wm. T. Sleeper, of Worcester. At the same time the general supervision of the schools, as an additional duty, was committed to his charge. Mr. Sleeper accepted the appointment, but was not able to enter upon its duties till September; so that for more than four months the services of the station were performed by temporary supplies, no one remaining for more than two or three weeks at a time. From the Record of our Quarterly Meeting in September, the following report is extracted, viz.:—

The committee appointed to make arrangements for the induction to office of Rev. Wm. T. Sleeper, as Chaplain, have attended to that duty, and report that their arrangements having been completed, the ceremonies took place at the Chapel of the State Reform School, on Wednesday, the 3d inst., in presence of six members of the Board of Trustees, and numerous invited friends of the Institution, and the following exercises were had:—

Invocation—By Rev. Mr. Ashley, of Northborough.

Singing—By the boys.

Reading the Scriptures—By Rev. Mr. Frost, of Concord.

Prayer—By Rev. Mr. Sheldors, of Westborough.

Charge to the Chaplain—By Rev. Mr. Webster, of Hopkinton.

Singing—By the boys.

Address to the Teachers—By Rev. Mr. Gage, of Westborough.

Address to the Boys—By Rev. Mr. James, of Worcester.

Concluding Prayer—By Rev. Mr. Walker, of Westborough.

Singing—By the boys.

After which Lieut. Gov. Brown, a member of the Board, on behalf of the Trustees, made a few remarks to the boys in commendation of the late Hon. Theodore Lyman, the founder of this institution. Then followed the

Benediction—By the Chaplain.

The exercises were of an elevated order, and highly satisfactory, and we think they were calculated to make a good and lasting impression on the inmates.

JOHN A. FITCH, *Chairman*.

At the Quarterly Meeting of the Board held in this month, the resignation of Mr. Ayres, the Steward, has been received and accepted. Mr. Ayres has been connected with the School almost from its first establishment, having filled various positions in its management, to the entire acceptance of the Trustees.

The resignation of the Superintendent was also received, and accepted at a Special Meeting held in October last. The Board has been since that time thoughtfully endeavoring to select the proper person to perform the duties of this responsible station, but they have not yet succeeded in satisfactorily accomplishing their purpose. Any further notice of this subject will be more properly deferred to a future Report.

To meet the expenses of the current year, we think the sum of \$44,000 will be required; viz.:—

For provisions and clothing for 600 boys, at \$45 each,	\$27,000 00
For salaries, wages, and support of officers, . . .	12,000 00
“ fuel, lights, and current expenses,	8,000 00
“ repairs and incidental expenses,	3,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$50,000 00
Deduct estimated receipts from labor of the boys, . . .	6,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$44,000 00

In regard to the Act of the legislature of 1856, chapter 150, providing for “the support of certain inmates of the State Reform School,” we have consulted able counsel, and have been

advised that under the law in its present form it would be inexpedient to attempt to enforce this provision, and we cannot, therefore, expect any relief for the present from this source. There have been, also, some unusual expenses, arising out of the changes in the workshops, consequent on the introduction of new branches of business, which we hope will prove more remunerative than some of the old ones. We had hoped, also, that we should be able to make a lower estimate of the expenditures for current expenses than heretofore; but with the prevailing high prices of provisions and labor, this appears to be, for the present, impracticable.

The Reform School has been in operation about eight years. There have been admitted, during that time, 1,909 boys; and of these 1,310, after various periods of detention, and such training as their several cases appeared to require, have been returned upon the community again. Some of these, we regret to state, have not been reclaimed by the counsel and instruction given to them, but have gone back to their former evil courses; while others, we rejoice in being permitted to say many others, are preparing for a life of usefulness, and bid fair to become honorable in their day and generation. One of this number is now a successful teacher in this institution. When the question shall be asked of us, where is the fruit of your labors? we will point the inquirer to these examples, and ask, in our turn, where would they have been at this hour, if they had not been arrested in their career of vice and crime, and turned back into the paths of rectitude, through the instrumentality of this heaven-born charity? Honored, then, be the good old Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and thrice honored that liberal benefactor of the Reform School, whom she proudly ranks among the noblest of her sons.

HARVEY DODGE.

THOS. A. GREENE.

HENRY W. CUSHMAN.

JOHN A. FITCH.

PARLEY HAMMOND.

JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.

SIMON BROWN.

WESTBOROUGH, Dec. 10, 1856.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents the Tenth Annual Report.

The Treasurer charges himself, from December 1, 1855, to November 29, 1856, inclusive, as follows:—

For amount received from Harvey Dodge, preceding Treasurer,	\$50 02
For amount of appropriation received from the the State Treasury for library books, . . .	150 00
For amount received from State Treasury,	\$43,820 00
For amount received for labor of boys,	6,017 72
For rent of houses,	265 52
For board of farmer,	52 29
For sundries,	1,431 70
	<hr/>
	51,587 23
	<hr/>
	<u>\$51,787 25</u>

There is due the Institution for the labor of boys the following sums:—

From Comstock, Cole & Co., two notes, payable as follows:—

February 1,	\$781 44
April 1,	715 60
From A. Davis & Co.,	279 31
	<hr/>
	\$1,776 35

He has paid for bills due and unpaid November

30th, 1855, \$1,520 17

And credits himself for the following payments:

Library books,	\$150 00
Hospital expenses,	\$146 81
Furniture and bedding,	2,059 85
Fuel and lights,	3,238 49
Provisions and groceries,	19,996 46
Clothing,	3,190 76
Transportation,	550 07
General improvements and repairs,	3,252 95
Postage,	45 04
Salaries and wages,	10,673 86
School books and stationery,	628 16
Leather, tools, and materials for shoe shop,	1,367 21
Trustees' expenses,	547 44
Miscellaneous,	1,546 83
	<hr/>
	47,243 93
	<hr/>
	\$48,914 10
Cash on hand,	2,873 15
	<hr/>
	\$51,787 25
	<hr/>

Tools and Materials for the Shoe Shop, include

Leather, 2,283 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet,	\$407 24
Leather, 3,508 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	857 90
Goat Skins, glazed, 24,	20 00
Tools,	51 24
Pegs, tacks, wax, &c.,	30 83
	<hr/>
	\$1,367 21

Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials on general repairs,	\$1,084 60
Repairing steam boiler, grist mill, and fixtures,	73 83
Iron provender mill,	100 00
Castings used in setting the same,	12 75
Cooking range, No. 6,	150 00
Setting up the same,	53 49

Painting, whitewashing, brushes, &c.,	\$580 47
Glass and glazing,	15 92
Locks, keys, and hinges,	28 56
Pump, lead pipe and repairing,	142 32
Carpenters' tools,	16 43
Belting,	9 98
Grading in front of the institution,	103 95
Digging and stoning cellar,	136 06
Soap-stone wash-tubs, 20,	214 75
Fitting up the same with steam and water pipes,	234 67
Fitting drying room with steam pipes,	195 17
Double jacket steam-kettle, 1,	100 00
	<hr/>
	\$3,252 95

Books, Stationery and Printing, include

School books, 1,725,	\$322 94
Slates, 12 dozen,	8 64
Library books, and paper for covering,	15 96
Prize essays, 200,	50 00
Writing books, 1,396,	96 00
Paper, pens, ink, &c.,	54 29
Supplements to the Revised Statutes,	5 00
Map of the town of Westborough,	3 00
Evening Traveller,	7 50
New England Farmer, two years,	4 00
Well Spring, 16 copies, one year,	4 00
Youth's Penny Gazette, 8 copies, one year,	1 00
Blank books and printing,	55 83
	<hr/>
	\$628 16

Furniture and Bedding, include

Ticking, 819 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	\$93 90
Sheeting, 1998 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	161 32
Table linen, 85 yards,	44 53
Crash, 331 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	22 89
Diaper for spreads, 414 yards,	69 01
Prints, 484 yards, batting, 400 pounds,	79 01
Straw, for beds, 18,535 pounds,	94 33
Thread, 51 pounds,	30 79

Shears, 2 pairs, and needles,	\$3 60
Carpeting, 188 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	201 84
Mats, 2,	1 33
Pillows and feathers,	8 50
Mattresses, 3 hair and 3 palm-leaf,	69 55
Bureau, \$18 ; bedsteads, 2, \$15 ; sinks, 2, \$12,	45 00
Chairs, 12, \$25.50 ; centre tables, 3, \$26,	51 50
Desk, for Chaplain's study, \$20 ; lounge, \$15,	35 00
Pails, 9 dozen,	37 25
Tubs, barrels, and other wooden ware,	17 01
Clothes-lines and pins,	5 50
Knives and forks, 28 sets,	24 10
Spoons, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ gross,	16 00
Crockery,	251 83
Glass and earthen ware,	2 38
Tin, copper and iron ware,	174 47
Lamps and chimneys,	24 97
Brooms, 392 ; brushes, 55,	88 17
Baskets, 23, \$14.58 ; wire cloth, 71 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet, \$17.81,	32 39
Stoves, funnel and repairing,	319 06
Stools and pedestals, for dining-room, 30,	25 30
Clocks, 6, and repairing,	13 50
Thermometers, 12,	4 50
Sausage-filler, \$3.50 ; meat-saw, \$2,	5 50
Sundries,	5 82
	<hr/>
	\$2,059 85

Clothing includes

Satinets, 2,841 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	\$1,528 13
Denims, 2,355 yards,	278 08
Cloth and clothing for apprentices,	168 56
Cotton cloth, 4,367 yards,	355 59
Vesting, 186 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	45 07
Silesia, 200 yards,	19 97
Cotton flannel, 676 yards,	65 80
Caps, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen ; visors, 3 gross,	30 04
Cambric and jean, 438 yards,	29 86
Thread, 92 pounds,	72 07
Frocking, 35 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	23 62

Needles, pins, and thimbles,	\$18 05
Buttons, 133 gross,	106 39
Suspenders, 13 dozen,	13 00
Socks, 8 dozen ; yarn, 297 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	264 78
Boots, 53 pairs,	116 40
Cravats, 6 dozen,	9 30
Combs, 49 gross,	22 92
Shears and scissors, 25 pairs,	9 75
Gloves, 13 pairs,	13 38
	<hr/>
	\$3,190 76

Provisions and Groceries, include

Flour, 844 barrels,	\$6,925 13
Rye meal, 229 bushels,	257 06
Indian meal, 1,078 bushels,	1,061 26
Buckwheat, 10 bags,	30 90
Malt, 325 pounds,	7 00
Crackers, 12 barrels,	51 88
Beef, 45,145 pounds,	3,169 29
Tongues, 256 pounds,	27 67
Pork, 9,868 pounds,	895 93
Ham, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	14 21
Mutton, 848 pounds,	47 27
Veal, 1,386 pounds,	118 56
Tripe, 370 pounds,	29 34
Fish, 8,818 pounds,	244 31
Poultry, 242 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	37 35
Potatoes, 1,221 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	822 18
Beans, 131 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels ; pease, 12 bushels,	325 64
Rice, 37,762 pounds,	1,691 92
Salt, 16 sacks,	43 10
Sugar, 3,034 pounds,	310 17
Coffee, 437 pounds,	58 51
Tea, 231 pounds,	93 86
Chocolate, 1,359 pounds,	207 00
Molassès, 2,272 gallons,	881 15
Honey, 120 pounds,	13 20
Butter, 2,955 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	693 98
Cheese, 301 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	36 88

Vinegar, 280 gallons,	\$30 80
Apple sauce, 40 gallons ; cider, 40 gallons,	16 00
Lard, 200 pounds,	29 41
Tapioca, 42 pounds, \$7.10 ; dried apple, 31 pounds, \$2.56,	9 66
Eggs, 164 dozen,	37 52
Hops, 102 pounds,	8 77
Apples, 178 bushels,	142 13
Raisins, \$34.27 ; nutmegs, \$14.25,	48 52
Soap, 896 pounds,	63 41
Potash, 621 pounds,	44 99
Starch, 119 pounds, and other small groceries,	34 74
Ice,	20 08
Milk, 8,649 gallons,	1,130 27
Strawberries, 152 boxes ; raspberries, 140 boxes,	47 90
Cranberries, 3 bushels ; currants, 38 quarts,	12 66
Peaches, 22½ bushels ; quinces, 4 bushels,	48 48
Pears, 6½ bushels, and other fruit from the garden,	53 64
Grapes, 3¾ bushels ; melons, 80,	25 74
Parsnips, 3 bushels ; beets, 29½ bushels,	12 82
Onions, 10½ bushels,	7 74
Squashes, 109½ pounds ; sage, 1 bushel,	5 04
Cabbages, 774,	38 11
Cucumbers, 388 ; tomatoes, and other garden vegetables,	33 28
	<hr/>
	\$19,996 46

Fuel and Lights, include

Coal, 327 tons,	\$2,586 21
Wood, 30½ cords,	173 50
Oil, 525 gallons,	478 78
	<hr/>
	\$3,238 49

Miscellaneous, includes

Expenses in pursuing and returning elopers,	77 92
Expenses in returning boys to friends and fitting them out to sea,	117 18
Travelling expenses on business for the institution,	165 53
Visiting apprentices,	49 61

Expenses in pursuing and returning apprentices who have left their places,	\$70 22
Conveying Sabbath school teachers to the institution,	168 75
Coffins and expenses of funerals,	10 50
Large lumber sleigh,	55 85
Repairing chaise, wagon and carts, and sleigh,	70 35
Whips, and repairing harnesses,	9 40
Grain for horses, 270 bushels,	190 00
Hay, 5 tons,	70 00
Horse, 1,	175 00
Blacksmith work, shoeing horses, &c.,	57 08
Chains, 2,	3 75
Butchering,	4 55
Interest and discount,	12 96
Wheelbarrows, 6,	17 10
Shovels, 32, and other garden tools,	33 15
Garden seeds,	8 35
Repairing sewing machine,	4 63
Fowls, 19,	9 50
Sketch of the institution,	4 09
Buffalo robe,	7 50
Expenses for the amusement of boys on the fourth of July, and to attend cattle show,	23 43
Instruments for exhibition, and supper for musicians,	14 00
Skates, 2 dozen,	9 00
Repairing rubber hose,	15 75
Tools for chair-seating shop,	50 83
Sundries,	40 94
	<hr/>
	\$1,546 83

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the State Reform School.

WESTBOROUGH, November 29, 1856.

We hereby certify that we have examined the accounts of the Treasurer of the State Reform School for Boys, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

J. A. FAYERWEATHER, }
JOHN A. FITCH, } *Auditing Committee.*

WESTBOROUGH, December 11, 1856.

LYMAN FUND.

The principal of this fund is the same as it was

November 30, 1855, \$20,000 00

Income on hand November 30, 1855, 360 00

Jan'y. Dividend on 60 shares Boston and Worcester Railroad, 210 00

July. Dividend on same, 180 00

\$750 00

No dividend received on the other stocks during the past year.

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the Lyman Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, November 29, 1856.

MARY LAMB FUND.

December 27, 1855. Received of Josiah Stedman,

Executor of the estate of Mary Lamb, her generous donation to the institution, \$1,000 00

August 11. Received interest to date, 37 50

\$1,037 50

The fund is loaned to the city of Worcester.

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the Mary Lamb Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, November 29, 1856.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the State Reform School :—

GENTLEMEN,—Herewith you will find the Tenth Annual Report of this Institution, containing a brief summary of its progress during the past year, and in many instances statistics of interest from its commencement to the present time :—

TABLE 1.

Showing the number received and discharged, and the general state of the School for the year ending November 30, 1856.

Boys in School December 1, 1855,	581	
“ since committed,	292	
Apprentices returned by masters,	26	
“ arrested and returned who had left their masters,	9	
“ returned voluntarily who had left their mas- ters,	7	
	—	42
Whole number in School during the year,	—	915
Boys discharged or apprenticed,	307	
“ remanded on alternative sentence,	3	
“ returned to masters,	2	
“ escaped,	2	
“ died,	2	
	—	316
Remaining in School November 30, 1856,		599

The three remanded on alternative sentence were under eight years of age, and by a vote of the Trustees the continuance of such in the institution, is considered inconsistent with its purposes and prejudicial to its interests.

TABLE 2.

Showing the Commitments from the several Counties the past year and previously.

COUNTIES.						Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable,	.	.	.	.	.	2	6	8
Berkshire,	.	.	.	.	.	12	52	64
Bristol,	.	.	.	.	.	39	153	192
Dukes,	.	.	.	.	.	—	2	2
Essex,	.	.	.	.	.	55	317	372
Franklin,	.	.	.	.	.	3	10	13
Hampden,	.	.	.	.	.	33	90	123
Hampshire,	.	.	.	.	.	6	18	24
Middlesex,	.	.	.	.	.	46	283	329
Nantucket,	.	.	.	.	.	2	11	13
Norfolk,	.	.	.	.	.	32	132	164
Plymouth,	.	.	.	.	.	3	19	22
Suffolk,	.	.	.	.	.	32	359	391
Worcester,	.	.	.	.	.	27	165	192
Totals,	.	.	.	.	.	292	1,617	1,909

TABLE 3.

Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and average number for each month of the year.

MONTHS.						Admitted.	Discharged.	Average No
December, 1855,	.	.	.	.	.	18	25	576
January, 1856,	.	.	.	.	.	17	22	572
February,	.	.	.	.	.	10	16	570.6
March,	.	.	.	.	.	24	35	572.3
April,	.	.	.	.	.	25	40	551.7
May,	.	.	.	.	.	28	22	544.2
June,	.	.	.	.	.	30	29	553.2
July,	.	.	.	.	.	48	28	566.1
August,	.	.	.	.	.	27	32	570
September,	.	.	.	.	.	34	34	572.4
October,	.	.	.	.	.	37	20	583.6
November,	.	.	.	.	.	27	18	595.9
Totals,	.	.	.	.	.	334	316	568.8

TABLE 4.

Showing the disposal of those discharged the past year and previously.

DISPOSAL.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Discharged by Board of Trustees, . .	45	291	336
“ on expiration of sentence, . .	32	107	139
Remanded on alternative sentence, . .	3	69	72
Indentured to Farmers and Gardeners, . .	55	218	273
“ Carpenters,	8	29	37
“ Bakers,	2	5	7
“ Silver Platers,	—	6	6
“ Cabinet Makers,	—	6	6
“ Pianoforte Makers,	—	1	1
“ Mahogany Chair Makers,	—	2	2
“ Trunkmakers,	—	3	3
“ Sawmakers,	—	1	1
“ Sailmakers,	1	2	3
“ Boot and Shoemakers,	79	232	311
“ Pump and Block Makers,	—	1	1
“ Sleighmakers,	—	1	1
“ Harness Makers,	1	4	5
“ Combmakers,	1	3	4
“ Musical Instrument Makers,	—	1	1
“ Tailors,	3	10	13
“ Machinists,	2	9	11
“ Ship Carp'trs & Boatbuilders,	1	4	5
“ Engraver,	—	1	1
“ Merchants,	—	3	3
“ Painters,	4	10	14
“ Plumbers,	—	1	1
“ Japanners,	—	1	1
“ Riggers,	—	1	1
“ Tanners and Curriers,	5	7	13
“ Stonecutters,	—	2	2
“ Wheelwrights,	3	3	6
“ Barbers,	5	10	15
“ Printers,	—	4	4
“ Tin and Sheet Iron Workers	—	3	3
“ Coopers,	2	5	7
“ Shoe Tool Makers,	—	2	2
“ Masons,	3	10	13
“ Bookbinders,	—	1	1
“ Butchers,	—	1	1
“ Veneer Sawyers,	—	1	1
“ Clerks,	3	4	7
“ Blacksmiths,	2	9	11
“ Sea Captains,	3	7	10
“ Engineers,	—	1	1
“ Wood Turners,	1	1	2
“ Attend School,	19	19	38

TABLE 4—Continued.

DISPOSAL.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Indentured to Boiler Makers,	—	2	2
“ Cotton Manufacturers,	2	2	4
“ Moulders,	2	1	3
“ Daguerreotype Artists,	—	1	1
“ Brass Founders,	—	2	2
“ Paper Hangers,	—	1	1
“ Fresco Cleaners,	—	1	1
“ Millers,	—	1	1
“ Clergymen,	—	1	1
“ File Makers,	—	1	1
“ Lumber Dealers,	—	1	1
“ Marble Workers,	—	1	1
“ Calico Printers,	1	—	1
“ Cigar Makers,	1	—	1
“ Tack Makers,	1	—	1
“ Pocketbook Makers,	1	—	1
“ Caterer,	1	—	1
“ Farmers and Shoemakers,	15	—	15
	228		
Discharged by order of Court,	2	6	8
Returned to masters,	2	10	12
Escaped,	2	9	11
Died,	2	23	25
Totals,	316	1,176	1,492

While it has been our constant endeavor to exercise the greatest care in indenturing, both as to the qualifications of the master and the character of the boy ; still, as will be seen by reference to Table 1, some have so conducted as to render it necessary for their masters to return them, and others have left their masters. Nevertheless, though the number of apprentices yearly increase, the number returned both the past year and the previous one, have diminished. This we look upon as an encouraging fact, especially when we consider the early training, and roving disposition of our boys. Very much depends upon the qualifications of the master, and the influences which surround the boy in his new home ; still, in some instances, where these have seemed to be the most favorable, they have broken away and disappointed our hopes and reasonable expectations.

TABLE 5.

Showing the length of time the boys had been in the Institution who left during the past year, and also during the two preceding years.

TIME.					Past Year.	The two pre- ceding Years.	Total.
In School	less than one Month,	.	.	.	4	1	5
In School	1 Month,	.	.	.	—	10	10
"	2 Months,	.	.	.	3	9	12
"	3 "	.	.	.	3	7	10
"	4 "	.	.	.	—	9	9
"	5 "	.	.	.	3	7	10
"	6 "	.	.	.	4	13	17
"	7 "	.	.	.	4	6	10
"	8 "	.	.	.	4	12	16
"	9 "	.	.	.	4	13	17
"	10 "	.	.	.	8	11	19
"	11 "	.	.	.	10	11	21
"	12 "	.	.	.	24	66	90
"	13 "	.	.	.	10	20	30
"	14 "	.	.	.	14	18	32
"	15 "	.	.	.	12	14	26
"	16 "	.	.	.	10	16	26
"	17 "	.	.	.	11	18	29
"	18 "	.	.	.	7	21	28
"	19 "	.	.	.	10	12	22
"	20 "	.	.	.	12	25	37
"	21 "	.	.	.	7	10	17
"	22 "	.	.	.	16	16	32
"	23 "	.	.	.	9	18	27
"	24 "	.	.	.	19	27	46
"	25 "	.	.	.	10	13	23
"	26 "	.	.	.	10	10	20
"	27 "	.	.	.	9	10	19
"	28 "	.	.	.	8	5	13
"	29 "	.	.	.	4	4	8
"	30 "	.	.	.	7	10	17
"	31 "	.	.	.	1	6	7
"	32 "	.	.	.	5	4	9
"	33 "	.	.	.	5	3	8
"	34 "	.	.	.	5	4	9
"	35 "	.	.	.	3	1	4
"	36 "	.	.	.	8	6	14
"	37 "	.	.	.	4	3	7
"	38 "	.	.	.	4	3	7
"	39 "	.	.	.	1	3	4
"	40 "	.	.	.	1	8	9
"	41 "	.	.	.	4	5	9
"	42 "	.	.	.	1	2	3

TABLE 5—Continued.

TIME.					Past Year.	The two pre- ceding Years.	Total.
In School 43 Months,	.	.	.	.	1	2	3
" 44 "	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
" 45 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
" 46 "	.	.	.	.	3	3	6
" 47 "	.	.	.	.	—	4	4
" 48 "	.	.	.	.	1	1	2
" 49 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
" 50 "	.	.	.	.	—	2	2
" 51 "	.	.	.	.	4	—	4
" 52 "	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
" 53 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
" 54 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
" 55 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
" 56 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
" 57 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
" 60 "	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
" 61 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
" 63 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
" 64 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
" 65 "	.	.	.	.	1	1	2
" 66 "	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
" 67 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
" 69 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
" 70 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
" 72 "	.	.	.	.	1	2	3
" 79 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
" 86 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
Totals,	.	.	.	.	316 .	515 .	831

Average, $23\frac{1}{2}$ months.

TABLE 6.

Showing by what authority committed.

COMMITTED.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas, . . .	12	88	100
Boston Municipal Court, . . .	7	143	150
“ Police “ . . .	22	197	219
Adams “ “ . . .	1	—	1
Blackstone “ “ . . .	—	1	1
Cambridge “ “ . . .	6	8	14
Chicopee “ “ . . .	8	1	9
Chelsea “ “ . . .	4	2	6
Fall River “ “ . . .	17	45	62
Haverhill “ “ . . .	2	3	5
Lawrence “ “ . . .	11	66	77
Lowell “ “ . . .	4	70	74
Lynn “ “ . . .	4	33	37
Lee “ “ . . .	4	—	4
Milford “ “ . . .	—	2	2
New Bedford “ “ . . .	8	51	59
Newburyport “ “ . . .	11	50	61
Pittsfield “ “ . . .	4	32	36
Roxbury “ “ . . .	14	4	18
Salem “ “ . . .	15	102	117
Springfield “ “ . . .	11	25	36
Taunton “ “ . . .	—	15	15
Worcester “ “ . . .	13	77	90
Justices of the Peace, . . .	114	602	716
Totals, . . .	292	1,617	1,909

TABLE 7.

Showing the Offences of those committed the past year and previously.

OFFENCES.	Past Year.	Previous	Total.
Larceny,	104	548	652
Stubbornness,	124	695	819
Idle and Disorderly,	8	71	79
Vagrancy,	19	99	118
Shopbreaking and Stealing,	—	27	27
Housebreaking,	—	12	12
Burglary,	—	9	9
Shopbreaking with intent to steal,	—	25	25
Pilfering,	—	11	11
Having obscene books and prints for circulation,	—	2	2
Common drunkards,	4	6	10
Malicious mischief,	8	35	43
Assault,	2	6	8
Trespass,	4	7	11
Arson,	—	3	3
Runaway,	2	17	19
Robbery from person,	—	4	4
Quarrelling and profanity,	—	1	1
Assault and battery,	3	11	14
Forgery,	—	4	4
Concealing stolen goods,	—	1	1
Attempt at larceny,	—	1	1
Attempt at robbery,	—	1	1
Barnburning,	—	1	1
Breaking and entering with intent to steal,	9	17	26
Burning a building,	1	1	2
Attempt to pass counterfeit money,	—	1	1
Giving spirits to persons under arrest,	—	1	1
Attempt to burn a building,	2	—	2
Accessory to larceny,	1	—	1
No offence mentioned,	1	—	1
Totals,	292	1,617	1,909

TABLE 8.

Showing the length of Sentence the past year and previously.

SENTENCED.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	200	1,169	1,369
Until 20 years of age,	—	5	5
19 " "	—	1	1
18 " "	—	9	9
17 " "	—	5	5
14 " "	—	2	2
For one year,	14	86	100
one year and four months,	1	—	1
one year and six months,	—	5	5
two years,	24	96	120
two years and six months,	1	3	4
two years, nine months, and eight days,	1	—	1
three "	16	104	120
four "	14	56	70
four years and six months,	—	1	1
five "	15	43	58
six "	3	20	23
seven "	2	2	4
eight "	—	7	7
nine "	—	1	1
ten "	1	2	3
Totals,	292	1,617	1,909

TABLE 9.

Showing the length of Alternative Sentences the past year and previously.

SENTENCES.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	4	14	18
For seven years,	—	1	1
five years and three months,	—	1	1
“ “	—	4	4
four “	1	10	11
three years and six months,	—	1	1
“ “	3	20	23
two years, nine months, eight days,	1	—	1
two years and six months,	4	2	6
“ “	2	69	71
one year and six months,	2	18	20
one year and three months,	—	19	19
“ “	11	74	85
ten months,	—	3	3
nine “	—	5	5
eight “	2	5	7
six “	85	430	515
five “	2	13	15
four “	6	37	43
three “	36	244	280
two “	65	298	363
forty days,	—	1	1
one month,	55	255	310
less than one month,	13	92	103
unexpired portion of sentence,	—	1	1
Totals,	292	1,617	1,909

TABLE 10.

Showing the Nativity of those committed the past year and previously.

NATIVITY.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Born in Ireland,	51	194	245
New Brunswick,	5	39	44
England,	10	30	40
Canada,	6	11	17
Nova Scotia,	5	21	26
Scotland,	2	5	7
France,	—	1	1
Germany,	—	1	1
Italy,	—	1	1
West Indies,	—	2	2
Newfoundland,	1	—	1
Foreigners,	80	305	385
Born in Massachusetts,	163	1,051	1,214
Maine,	4	62	66
New Hampshire,	8	46	54
Vermont,	2	31	33
New York,	19	59	78
Connecticut,	8	18	26
Rhode Island,	3	22	25
Maryland,	—	4	4
New Jersey,	1	4	5
Pennsylvania,	2	5	7
Virginia,	—	6	6
Louisiana,	—	1	1
Illinois,	—	3	3
District of Columbia,	2	—	2
Natives,	212	1,212	1,524
Foreigners,			385
Natives,			1,524
Total,			1,909

Of the 1,524 born in the United States, 1,051 are of American parentage, 389 of Irish, 50 of English, 13 of French, 11 of Scotch, 7 of German, 1 of Danish, 1 of Spanish, 1 of Swedish.

TABLE 11.

Showing the age of the boys when committed.

AGE.	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Six years,	1	3	4
Seven years,	5	10	15
Eight years,	10	45	55
Nine years,	18	80	98
Ten years,	25	157	182
Eleven years,	32	183	215
Twelve years,	32	208	240
Thirteen years,	43	253	296
Fourteen years,	49	278	327
Fifteen years,	56	315	371
Sixteen years,	21	49	70
Seventeen years and over,	—	25	25
Unknown,	—	11	11
Totals,	292	1,617	1,909

Average age, 13 years.

TABLE 12.

Showing the Moral, Domestic, and Social condition of those committed the past year and previously, so far as can be gathered from their own statement and other reliable sources.

	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Number committed,	292	1,617	1,909
Who have lost father,	77	450	527
“ “ “ mother,	37	250	287
“ “ “ both parents,	23	144	167
Whose fathers have no regular occupation,	97	587	684
“ “ are intemperate,	74	499	573
“ mothers “ “	9	20	29
“ parents are both intemperate,	17	177	194
“ parents' example is otherwise morally pernicious,	139	869	1,008
Who have, or have had, one or more members of their families in penal or reformatory institutions,	36	447	483

TABLE 13.

Showing the Habits, Delinquencies, Arrests, &c., the past year and previously.

	Past Year.	Previously.	Total.
Number committed,	292	1,617	1,909
Were mostly idle previous to commitment,	135	1,377	1,512
“ untruthful,	162	1,539	1,701
Used profane language,	140	1,424	1,564
“ obscene “	65	1,198	1,263
Were truants,	118	1,216	1,334
“ Sabbath-breakers,	151	1,189	1,340
Never attended Sabbath School,	46	276	322
Were irregular or occasional attendants,	198	1,109	1,307
Had a companionship more or less intimate with each other previous to admission,	173	1,289	1,462
Had frequented places of questionable amusement,	64	1,022	1,086
Had slept out nights in stables, sheds, boxes, and similar places,	76	832	908
Had used tobacco,	66	748	814
“ drank intoxicating liquors, many of them to excess,	26	484	510
Had been previously arrested once,	60	324	384
“ “ “ “ twice,	8	113	121
“ “ “ “ three times,	4	55	59
“ “ “ “ four “	1	23	24
“ “ “ “ five “	—	50	50
or more,	—	50	50
Whole number previously arrested,	73	565	638
Had been in prisons, houses of detention, or reformatory schools,	31	422	453

TABLE 14.

Showing the Average Employment, &c.

Number employed by contractors, making shoes,	.	.	.	.	120.8
“ “ in making and repairing shoes,	.	.	.	.	20.5
“ “ “ seating chairs,	.	.	.	.	32.9
“ “ “ sewing and knitting,	.	.	.	.	163.4
“ “ “ farming and gardening,	.	.	.	.	77.6
“ “ “ the laundry,	.	.	.	.	42.3
“ “ “ domestic work,	.	.	.	.	41.5
“ “ “ baking and cooking,	.	.	.	.	13.9
“ “ “ care of dining rooms,	.	.	.	.	12
“ “ “ miscellaneous work,	.	.	.	.	40.1
“ confined to the hospital, 1.8, employed, 1,	.	.	.	.	2.8
					568.8

SHOE DEPARTMENT.

This department continues the same as last year.

Two shops are occupied by the contractors, (Messrs. Comstock, Cole & Co., of Boston,) who have employed an average of 120.8 boys through the year, and have made 176,064 pairs of shoes. One shop is occupied for the making and repairing shoes for the use of the boys, and in stitching boots and shoes for neighboring manufacturers, where an average of 20.5 boys have been employed in closing 3,323 pairs of shoes, in stitching 5,605 pairs of boots, in making 1,161 pairs of shoes, and repairing 3,452 pairs of boots and shoes.

SEWING AND KNITTING DEPARTMENT.

This department has for the greater part of the year occupied two shops, where an average of 163.4 boys (the smallest) have been employed in making 1,205 jackets, 1,182 pairs pants, 163 vests, 1,715 shirts, 784 pairs suspenders, 240 pairs mittens, 14 table cloths, 298 palmleaf hats, 184 cravats, 609 sheets, 219 towels, 39 pillow cases, 1,065 pairs stockings, 1,158 caps, 370 flannel wrappers, 100 pillows, 119 comfortables, 10 frocks, 44 bedticks, 182 spreads, 78 holders, 20 curtains, 12 napkins, 68 fine bosom shirts, and 1 wagon cloth. Also in repairing 3,714 jackets, 6,440 pairs pants, 4,062 pairs stockings, 5,838 shirts,

389 aprons, 424 caps, 463 sheets and spreads, and 110 bedticks. Whole number made, 9,889. Whole number repaired, 21,440.

LAUNDRY.

The average number in this department has been 42, who have been employed in the washing and ironing of 173,485 articles.

FARM.

This department still continues under the charge of the State Board of Agriculture, and while we had hoped that more boys than heretofore would have enjoyed its benefits, we have to report a number nearly seventeen per cent. less than last year.

SCHOOLS.

No material change has been made in the general organization or management of the schools. This department embraces eight schools, with their subdivisions, four in each department as morally divided. The more advanced class of each department constituting the first school, the next in grade of each department the second, the next the third, and the lowest school in each department the fourth school.

Those received during the year have entered each of these schools, as follows, viz. :—

The first, or more advanced schools,	.	.	37
“ second schools,	.	.	40
“ third “	.	.	92
“ fourth “	.	.	165
Total,	.	.	334

Those discharged during the year were from each of these schools, as follows, viz. :—

From the first or more advanced schools,	.	.	132
“ “ second schools,	.	.	77
“ “ third “	.	.	64
“ “ fourth “	.	.	43
Total,	.	.	316

The promotions to higher schools were as follows, viz. :—

From the fourth (lowest) to the third, . . .	140
“ “ third to the second, . . .	160
“ “ second to the first, . . .	104

Present number in each of the schools :—

Number in the first or more advanced schools, . . .	145
“ “ second schools, . . .	148
“ “ third “ . . .	159
“ “ fourth “ . . .	147
Total,	<hr/> 599

Of these—

Read books generally with more or less correctness, . . .	488
“ “ in easy lessons, . . .	72
“ “ “ monosyllables, . . .	39
Have studied practical arithmetic, . . .	216
“ “ mental “ . . .	214

The text-books used are Greenleaf's Common School Arithmetic, Greenleaf's Mental Arithmetic, and Colburn's Mental Arithmetic.

Those in practical arithmetic

Have studied in simple rules, . . .	53
“ “ through simple rules, . . .	52
“ “ “ reduction, . . .	36
“ “ “ compound numbers, . . .	14
“ “ “ fractions, . . .	47
“ “ “ the book, . . .	14
“ “ geography, . . .	452
“ “ History of United States, . . .	9
“ “ physiology, . . .	10
“ “ astronomy, . . .	32
“ “ algebra, . . .	10
Write on paper, . . .	482
“ “ slates, . . .	117

HEALTH.

The health of the boys through the year has been almost uninterruptedly good. Very few cases of severe sickness have occurred, and but two deaths, one of whom died of disease contracted long before his commitment.

As will be perceived by reference to Table 14, (average employment, &c.,) the average in the hospital through the year has been very small. May the same kind Providence, which has so mercifully watched over and preserved our youthful charge during the year, be vouchsafed in coming years, and that feeling of gratitude which is due for so great a blessing, exercise all our hearts.

For a more detailed report under this head you are respectfully referred to the Physician's Report.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

As heretofore this department has been supplied with teachers, (aside from those of the officers, teachers and assistants who have acted in this capacity,) by ladies and gentlemen from the village of Westborough, some of whom for several years have continued to act in this sphere of Christian benevolence. We thank them for their efforts in behalf of the erring and misguided boys committed to our charge. May their efforts be productive of the good for which they are designed.

For the present moral and religious condition of the institution, please see the Chaplain's Report.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We are happy to record our indebtedness to the Hon. Charles Sumner for valuable public documents, to Charles Merriam, Esq., of Springfield, for a large number of interesting and highly instructive volumes of books presented to the boys,—to those of the Sabbath school teachers who have regularly distributed religious papers to the members of their class, and to the Massachusetts Bible Society for furnishing to each boy a Bible, as he leaves the institution. Also to the proprietors of the following journals and periodicals, bestowed gratuitously, which have been regularly received during the year, and which

have been a source of much pleasure, and we trust, profit, to us all, viz. :—" Youth's Companion," " Child's Paper," " Sunday School Journal," " American Weekly Traveller," " Massachusetts Spy," " National Ægis," " Cambridge Chronicle," " Salem Register," " Hingham Journal," and " Prisoner's Friend." Could those who have thus contributed to our sources of improvement but see the eagerness with which their gifts are sought by our youthful company, we feel sure they would find an immediate reward.

We also tender our thanks to the Northborough Brass Band for the increased interest given to the boys' exhibition through their kindness, and to the Shrewsbury Brass Band for their most acceptable concert given in our chapel.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I thank you for the kindness, sympathy and aid I have received from you in the prosecution of the arduous duties of my position, as well as in the meeting of its peculiar and special trials, and also acknowledge my indebtedness to many of my associates for their untiring efforts and constant co-operation in striving to promote the present and eternal well-being of those for whom we labor, as also the general interests of this noble institution. And now in leaving this scene of my labors and my prayers, and these youth upon whom for so long a time I have looked with so much of affection and hope, I earnestly beseech " the Lord of the harvest " to so direct you, and those who may occupy your position in time to come in selecting laborers for this field, that fruit may be gathered here an hundred fold to His glory.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES M. TALCOTT,

Superintendent.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, Westborough, }
November 29, 1856. }

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*To the Trustees of the State Reform School, at Westborough,
Massachusetts :—*

GENTLEMEN :—Having but recently been called to this field of labor, what I may have to say will be more general in its character, and less interesting in its material, than it would be under different circumstances.

In making a report to you of the moral and religious condition of the boys in this institution—if I express any opinion at all in regard to their attainments in these respects—I must speak *relatively*. If their moral standing be compared with that of the best Christian society in the State, the former would, of course, fall far below the latter. But if they be compared with boys of the same class—for example—brothers and playmates, who are still, many of them, living idly, and some of them viciously, at their homes, without proper instruction and without parental control, the comparison would be very much in favor of the boys in the institution. The boys here are learning habits of industry, order and neatness, while many of their associates at home are becoming confirmed in habits just the opposite. The boys here, with scarcely an exception, are making commendable progress in education; and externally, to say the least, they give a respectful attention to religion. But with most of their former associates the fact is far different. I am familiar with the early habits of a large class of the boys committed to this institution, and I know the kind of influences that surround them at their homes—if, indeed, homes they have. They are surrounded by circumstances which almost make it certain that they will become law-breakers. Many of

them are born of dishonest, or intemperate, and otherwise vicious, parents. From their infancy they have been familiar with scenes of vice. Their dialect, in a great degree, is made up of words and phrases which indicate the degraded character of their early instructors. To their minds there is no halo of sacredness encircling the name of God, the Bible, the Church, and the Sabbath. But rather, profanity, infidelity, Sabbath-breaking, vice and crime, are the legitimate fruits of the seed which has been sowed and ploughed into their hearts at so early an age. It is to rescue and reform such as these that reformatory institutions have been established; but it cannot be expected that these boys shall at first see the advantages of leading a new life, nor voluntarily behave with all that decorum in school and chapel which is demanded of them. What they at first do reluctantly, shall, in many instances, after a few months, be done cheerfully; what is done at first only *externally*, shall at length become an *internal principle*, a *fixed habit*, that may be the guide of their remaining life. And although their orderly conduct in the hours of worship, and their well-recited lessons in the Sabbath school, may not always be acts of their own choice, yet these acts shall, more frequently than might be supposed, have a salutary effect upon the life. The lessons of truth they learn, though many times forced into their minds, shall, like the seed-corn forced into the earth between the roots and rocks of a new, hard soil, in the autumn of life, yield the ripest fruit.

The usual exercises for the moral and religious improvement of the boys have been continued, and, it is hoped, with much success, during the past year. The Sabbath school has continued to receive most valuable and efficient aid from a large number of self-denying teachers from the village. This is a great labor of love, and it can only be appreciated by remembering that, through cold and heat, the year in and the year out, they are expected to be at their posts at nine o'clock every Sabbath morning, to hear recited the verses of Scripture the boys have committed to memory during the preceding week, and then impart to them what instruction they may be able to give. All the boys are required to commit to memory, and recite the same portion of God's word,—usually seven or eight verses a week,—and this passage of Scripture furnishes

the theme for my regular morning discourse. Four weeks ago we commenced the second chapter of Matthew on this plan; and the increased interest which the boys have manifested in remarks drawn from and designed to illustrate a passage of Scripture with which they were familiar, has satisfied me that this course is worthy of a longer trial.

Preaching in the chapel twice every Sabbath, and daily morning and evening prayers with the boys, have been sustained throughout the year, although four or five months elapsed after the cessation of your former chaplain's labors here, before I entered upon the field.

Soon after I commenced my labors here in September, I found several boys who seemed much concerned for their souls' welfare. Upon conversation with them I became satisfied that religious truth had made a deep impression upon their minds. One dated his religious impressions from a sermon preached here in the summer by an aged servant of God, whose labors in this world are nearly done. That I might have an opportunity to give special instruction to boys of this class, I invited all those of whom I could gain an evidence of religious seriousness to come to my study on Saturday evening after prayers. At the first meeting there were five boys present; there I instituted what I called a "class meeting." This meeting has been continued with increasing interest to the present time. The class now numbers sixteen, besides two that have been indentured since the class was formed. Three of this number have given satisfactory evidence of a change of heart; and others, I hope, have commenced in earnest to live a Christian life.

Every Friday evening all the members of the family who feel disposed, meet together and hold a prayer meeting, when words of encouragement are spoken, and prayers offered to God for his blessing upon the institution.

Again on Sabbath evening we come together as a Bible class, to study the verses that are to be our next Sabbath's lesson.

We have also a monthly meeting of our Sabbath school teachers in the village, when we talk over matters pertaining to the success of the Sabbath school, and the good of the boys.

Notwithstanding all the moral and religious influences that can be brought to bear upon the boys in the institution, it appears to me that the chief hope of reforming them lies not in

their long detention here, but in securing for them good homes in the country among farmers and mechanics,—homes of a highly moral and religious character. I doubt very much whether boys should be collected together here in large numbers, and kept until they have arrived at a certain point of excellence. Is it not desirable to give greater attention to seeking out good places for the boys, and indenturing them to men who will watch over them for their good? There are many boys here now who would do well with country farmers and mechanics; they would make profitable help for the master, and find good homes for themselves; thus both parties would be mutually benefited.

The practice of visiting the boys occasionally at the places where they are indentured, which has been adopted by this institution to some extent, it appears to me may result in much good, especially if carried out as it ought to be. While these visits insure the boys that they are not forgotten,—that their happiness is looked after by the State,—they also remind the master that any gross neglect or abuse on his part will be known and corrected.

In the early part of October I spent a day in visiting our boys at Marblehead. Of the nineteen boys that I saw there, twelve were doing well, two were doing rather poorly, and five were doing badly. The masters of those boys who were not doing well, with but one or two exceptions, I think, are not such masters as would exert a religious influence over the boys. They disregard the Sabbath, and make use of profane language; they *send* their boys to meeting, but stay away themselves. The education of the boys at Marblehead, both intellectual and moral, it appeared to me, was much neglected. Their only chance for education is attending three evening schools a week, after working hard all day *pegging shoes*, and this only during the cold weather. There are, I think, too many boys from the institution living in the same neighborhood.

There have been only two deaths in the institution during the past year; these both occurred in March, so near to each other that the lifeless bodies of both boys were lying in the hospital at the same time. A circumstance connected with the death of one of them may be thought worthy of a short notice.

The boy to whom I refer had been one of the hardest boys to govern in the institution ; but a few months before his death, encouraged by his teacher, he had commenced the practice of secret prayer, with special reference to overcoming his most prominent faults, his besetting sins. Not many weeks had elapsed before there was seen in him a decided change of conduct ; he became one of the most industrious and exemplary boys in the school, and was promoted to the monitorship of the room. During the few weeks of his sickness he suffered much, and his mind was frequently in a wandering and dreamy state. The night before he died he was quiet, and in his right mind. With great difficulty of utterance he began to sing, and those near him could understand his words ; he was singing a beautiful hymn he had learned of the music teacher, beginning,—

“ We won’t give up the Bible,
God’s holy book of truth.”

He would not give up the effort until he had gone through the entire hymn, though he often stopped for want of breath. While the lamp of life was going out, and the voice refused to utter words, the memory was clear and strong. The moral lessons he had learned were thus carried with him into that mysterious world, which, though not far off, is yet beyond our feeble sight,—into that world where no Bible is needed ; for Jesus, calling the little children unto him with his own sweet voice, will tell them of heavenly things.

I cannot close this Report without acknowledging the receipt of ten dollars from Mrs. H. E. Richardson, of Shrewsbury, to purchase juvenile papers for the boys ; and also *ten cents* from a little boy in Shrewsbury, to pay for the Child’s Paper one year for “ Johnny Ayers,” a little boy in the institution.

The two tables which are usually in the Chaplain’s Report will be found in the Report of the Superintendent.

W. T. SLEEPER.

WESTBOROUGH, Dec. 10, 1856.

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

WESTBOROUGH, December 1, 1856.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School:—

GENTLEMEN:—It will appear from notes designed for medical reference that the general health of the inmates of this institution has been sustained in the usual condition since my last annual report, and no particular disease of prominence has prevailed very extensively. Typhoid fever has been the disease most frequently recurring of much importance. Eight were sick with it during the year, mostly in the early part of last winter. One of this number died. I report also five cases of inflammation of the lungs, scattered, unusually, through all the seasons. Also one of dysentery, one of acute rheumatism, and three of erysipelas. The above are noted as requiring daily medical attention. Several of them were severely sick. One case of chorea, or St. Vitus's dance, is also reported, attended with complication of disease, creating a good deal of apprehension for his safety. This boy was but partially restored, and has died since his discharge from the institution.

One has died of chronic inflammation of the bowels, with dropsy of the abdomen. The disease was in progress when the boy was committed here; and the history of this case in its primary stage is consequently obscurely ascertained.

One boy lies very sick in the hospital at the present time with disease of the brain.

Respectfully yours,

H. H. RISING.

APPENDIX.

Names, Residence, Commission and Retirement of the Trustees of the State Reform School, from its commencement to the present time.

Date of Commission.	Names.	Residence.	Date of Retirement.
1847.	Nahum Fisher, . .	Westborough, .	1849.
1847.	John W. Graves, . .	Lowell, . .	1849.
1847.	Samuel Williston, . .	Easthampton, .	1853.
1847.	Thomas A. Greene, . .	New Bedford, .	Still in office.
1847.	Otis Adams, . . .	Grafton, . .	1851.
1847.	George Denny,* . .	Westborough, .	1851.
1847.	William T. Andrews, .	Boston, . .	1851.
1849.	William Livingston,* .	Lowell, . .	1851.
1849.	Russell A. Gibbs, . .	Lanesborough, .	1853.
1851.	George H. Kuhn, . .	Boston, . .	1855.
1851.	J. B. French, . . .	Lowell, . .	1854.
1851.	Daniel H. Forbes,* . .	Westborough, .	1854.
1851.	Edward B. Bigelow, .	Grafton, . .	1855.
1853.	J. H. W. Page, . . .	New Bedford, .	1856.
1853.	Harvey Dodge, . . .	Sutton, . .	Still in office.
1854.	G. Howland Shaw, . .	Boston, . .	1856.
1854.	Henry W. Cushman, .	Barnardston, .	Still in office.
1855.	Albert H. Nelson, . .	Woburn, . .	1855.
1855.	John A. Fitch, . . .	Hopkinton, . .	Still in office.
1855.	Parley Hammond, . .	Worcester, . .	Still in office.
1856.	Simon Brown, . . .	Concord, . .	Still in office.
1856.	John A. Fayerweather,	Westborough, .	Still in office.

Those marked thus (*) are deceased.

OFFICERS.

TRUSTEES.

HARVEY DODGE.
 THOMAS A. GREENE.
 HENRY W. CUSHMAN.
 JOHN A. FITCH.

PARLEY HAMMOND.
 JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.
 SIMON BROWN.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

HARVEY DODGE, *Chairman*.
 PARLEY HAMMOND.

SIMON BROWN.
 JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

THOMAS A. GREENE.
 HENRY W. CUSHMAN.

JOHN A. FITCH.

SECRETARY.

THOMAS A. GREENE.

TREASURER.

PARLEY HAMMOND.

JAMES M. TALCOTT, <i>Superintendent</i> .	HENRY H. RISING, <i>Physician</i> .
ORVILLE K. HUTCHINSON, <i>Asst. Supt.</i>	Mrs. J. M. TALCOTT, <i>Matron</i> .
MOSES O. AYRES, <i>Steward</i> .	Mrs. M. K. STANWOOD, <i>Asst. Matron</i> .
WM. T. SLEEPER, <i>Chaplain</i> .	Mrs. M. O. AYRES, <i>Teacher of Music</i> .

TEACHERS.

CHARLES TALCOTT.
 WILLIAM JOHNSON.
 CHARLES H. HUBBARD.
 DANIEL SULLIVAN.

HENRY TALCOTT.
 DESIRE H. BRADFORD.
 EUNICE E. MORSE.
 NANCIE PAINE.

OVERSEERS OF WORKSHOPS.

ERASTUS C. LOUD.
 FREDERICK MORRISON.
 ANTHONY DOUGHERTY.
 DWIGHT PAIGE.

MALINDA PALMER.
 KATE E. COWLES.
 OLIVE HODGES.

ALBERT J. NEWELL, *Baker*.
 MARIA L. MORRISON, *Overseer*
of Dining-rooms.

EBER O. BAILEY, *Carp'r and Eng'r*.
 Mrs. E. O. BAILEY, *Nurse*.
 Mrs. D. PAIGE, *Laundress*.

OVERSEERS OF DOMESTIC DEPARTMENTS.

HENRY COBB.

CHARLES JOHNSON.

WATCHMEN.

WILLIAM PAIGE.

GEORGE W. HODGKINS.

ANDREW MORRISON, *Man of all work*.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS WRITTEN BY MASTERS, AND OTHERS,
OF BOYS WHO HAVE BEEN INDENTURED OR DISCHARGED
FROM THE INSTITUTION.

P—, *December, 1855.*

Sir:—P.'s health has been almost invariably good since he came to live with me; and I think, considering what his former habits were, he has improved very much. Our school will commence next Monday, and I intend to have him attend constantly, as he has done winters since he has been with me.

Truly yours, &c., H.

W—, *December, 1855.*

Sir:—I write to you of the lad I took from your school one year ago, and to make known to you that he has been a very good boy, and tried to comply with my wishes in all respects. He often speaks of the people at Westborough, and sends his love to all. He attended school last winter, was obedient, and improved very fast in all his studies.

Respectfully yours, T.

B—, *December, 1855.*

Dear Sir:—It is with pleasure I write these few lines to let you know that H. is well, and a very good boy. He has improved the past year very much in his behavior, and his teacher says he is a very good boy in school, and tries to learn, and I think he will.

Yours truly, C.

F—, *December, 1855.*

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your rules I present my annual letter, informing you of the health and conduct of my son, who left your institution two years since. We live about two miles from the village where he has resided since he left you, having the benefits of a good school one-half the year, and the other half working on the farm.

His conduct is all I could expect of a son; and I owe it to you to say that I attribute it, in a great measure, to habits acquired and discipline received at your institution, for which you have my sincere thanks, as also his.

Yours truly, H.

B—, *December, 1855.*

Sir:—M.'s health has been good through the year; he is now in school, seems interested in his studies, and is doing well. He has attended public worship and the Sabbath school regularly, but with apparently little interest. I hope I may write better things concerning this at some future day. He is doing well at his trade, and since I wrote you last year is improved in his general character. I feel we have encouragement to labor for his welfare, trusting in God for his blessing.

Yours, P.

D—, *December, 1855.*

Mr. Talcott:—I write to inform you that T.'s health and behavior are good. He is now attending school; has visited his parents once during the year.

Yours, A.

N. B., *January, 1856.*

Dear Sir:—Thus far I am very much pleased with J.; he has been very steady, and I trust he will make a useful member of society.

Yours, with respect, H.

B—, *January, 1856.*

Dear Sir:—A. is well and hearty; I am sending him to school at ——— this winter; he is contented, and a very good boy. He receives letters from his mother often; she is anxious that he should visit her. What do you think about it? I am willing, if you think proper.

Very respectfully, &c., W.

D—, *January, 1856.*

Dear Sir:—M. is with me, and in good health; he is now in school, and is a very good boy, and I trust I shall never have to write otherwise. I want another boy. M. spoke to me of H; can I have him? If not, will you recommend some other boy? M. sends his love and best wishes to all, and wishes you (though late) "a happy new year."

Your obedient servant, F.

B—, *February, 1856.*

Dear Sir:—M., the boy I took from your school three years since, continues to do well, and I think he will. He has attended school regularly through the winter; he sends love to all. His mother spent four weeks with us last fall; she thinks him very much improved.

Yours, with respect, C.

D—, *March, 1856.*

Dear Sir:—I suppose you are impatient to hear from P.; I have waited till his school should close, that I might report his progress. I must say I have been very much disappointed in him, for he has proved a much better boy than I expected. His general character has been very good, and I have had no reason to find fault with him, nor have I heard any complaint of him; but, on the contrary, he is liked by all who know him. He attends church regularly, and learns his lessons well; at the examination at the close of the day school he had the credit of being the best scholar in school. His health has been very good, and he has grown to be a large boy; at his trade he learns quick, and works willing and cheerful, and bids fair for the future.

Yours truly, R.

M—, *April, 1856.*

Dear Sir:—Agreeably to your rules I write you of J., and inform you that he enjoys excellent health, and has behaved very well, with the exception of one indiscretion, for which I took occasion to correct him, and feel confident it will not be repeated. He is learning his trade thoroughly, and is progressing in it very well indeed. I think he will compare favorably with boys of his age, in his acquirements and education.

Trusting the good feeling which now exists between us may last till the end of his apprenticeship, I am, Sir,

Yours truly, R.

H—, *May*, 1856.

Dear Sir:—I have the pleasure to inform you that D. is doing well ; he likes his master, and his master likes him.

Your humble servant, B.

M—, *June*, 1856.

Sir:—It is my duty to inform you how I. is getting along ; he is an extra good boy, and one that I can trust. He goes to meeting and the Sabbath school every Sabbath.

Yours, C.

S—, *August*, 1856.

Dear Sir:—The boys are really good ones ; O. is a hundred per cent. better than Mc. could be, and as for F., he is a good man everywhere. I have never had boys who pleased me so well before, since I commenced farming. The boys say,—“Tell Mr. T. we enjoy ourselves first-rate, and we hope he will come round and see us before long.” F. says,—“Tell him I hope I shall be able, at some time, to render him some return for what he has done for me.”

Adieu, T.

M—, *September*, 1856.

Dear Sir:—D. and R. are good boys, and have been ; they are very well, and smart boys, but D. is extra.

Yours, &c., F.

T—, *October*, 1856.

Dear Sir:—It is my duty to write you of H. ; he has now been with me over a year, has been very diligent and steady, and with few exceptions, hardly worth the mention, has been a very worthy, trusty boy. His health has been very good ; he has visited his mother, says he had a good time. He has attended church regularly on the Sabbath, and, I think, avoids bad company.

Yours respectfully, E.

B—, *November*, 1856.

Dear Sir:—One year has passed since I wrote you of H. ; he has enjoyed good health ; he has improved in his studies, and in his character, and is doing well at his trade ; and I hope, with the blessing of God upon my efforts, I shall still have reason for encouragement.

Yours, &c., P.

F—, *November*, 1856.

My dear Sir:—As has been my custom, I send you my annual letter of my son. He is now nearly twenty-one years old, rugged and strong,—a full man in size ; and, I trust, also in strength and manliness of character. He cherishes, with myself, a fond remembrance of his stay at Westborough, as the commencement of a more worthy life.

I have bought for him a well-stocked and pleasant farm in this vicinity, believing that a farmer's life is most conducive to contentment, and peaceful days, and the developing, as I hope, of his better self, so much advanced by your kind advice and discipline. May God reward you. Most truly yours, H.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE BOYS.

M—, *December, 1855.*

Mr. Talcott. Dear Sir:—I am almost ashamed to write you, because I have neglected to so long; but if you will forgive me this time, I will try and do better in future. I like my home very much, and do not think you could have found me a better one. I go to meeting and Sabbath school every Sabbath. My day school has kept three weeks, and I like it very well, though it is very different from the Massachusetts school. Give my love to all the officers, and tell them I should like very much to see them. I see you have a larger family than when I left. Mr. L. and family send their love to you, and would like to have you come and see us, if you come to Maine. I expect to visit my mother next spring, and will come and see you if I can. I thank you for all your kindness and good counsel, and will try to remember and improve from it. And now, hoping you will write me a good long letter, I remain,

Truly yours, &c., T.

Mr. T.—It gives me pleasure to add to T.'s letter that he has been a member of our family nearly one year, and has ever conducted himself with propriety and uprightness, and has greatly endeared himself to us all.

Yours, with respect, (his master,) L.

W. B., *December 29, 1855.*

Dear Friend:—It is with the greatest pleasure I write you now that I am in good health, and am enjoying the blessings of heaven. I have long been a wanderer from God, but I am determined, at the beginning of the year, (1856,) I will serve God. There is a great revival in this town, and many are turning to the Lord. I am most happy to say that my master is one of them, and has united himself with the church of God, determined to serve him. As he has set the example I mean, by the help of God, to follow. Give my love to all the officers and the boys, and don't forget to write to me. Good-by, for the present.

I am, &c. &c., O.

B—, *April, 1856.*

Mr. Talcott. Kind Sir:—I write to let you know how I am getting along; I have a first-rate place, and am doing well; I am very thankful to you for it, and still more so for your kindness to me. I shall try to pay you by being a very good boy; you said that was all you asked. I read those books you placed in my hands as I came away, and I wish all the boys could read the same. Will you please send me the song "We won't give up the Bible," as I should be glad to have it. My love to all. I shall expect to hear from you. No more this time from one of *your* boys.

H.

W—, *May, 1856.*

Mr. T. Sir:—I am pleasantly settled here, and will do as well as I can; I thank you a thousand times for your kindness to me. Tell the officers I am well, and to please accept my sincere thanks for the benefits I have received.

Truly, B.

B—, *June, 1856.*

Dear Friend:—I was most happy to get your letter, and to hear from the school. I am well, and doing well; have seen quite a number of the boys; most of them are doing well, but I am sorry to say one or two are not. Please let me know where S. is; I want to write to him. Give my love to ———, and all the officers. I was sorry to hear T. was sick; I hope he will be better soon. Please write and let me know all about the school.

From your affectionate pupil, W.

N. B., *July, 1856.*

Dear Sir:—I write to let you know I am getting along well. I received your letter, and am now getting more used to work, and am contented, and think I shall be. Mr. P. is a good man to me. I do not get much time to study, but expect to when I go to school next winter. Please write to me often, and let me know how all the family are.

Yours, C.

C. Ill., *October, 1856.*

Mr. J. M. T. My dear Friend:—You must excuse me for not writing before; I have not forgotten you, or your good advice, and I never will. You told me if I would give up stealing and lying for two years, you would make me acquainted with a happy boy; I promised you I would, and I have kept my promise. My master puts up steam-engines; he has gone farther West to put up one, and left me here, with one of his men, to put up another. I told him I was going to write to you before he returned, but he asked me to wait, and he would join me; but we will write again then. I don't write very well, but you will excuse me, for if it had not been for you I should not have known A from B in writing. You remember you set me the copies when I would get my work done, and if I had followed your advice in studying I should have been a good scholar now.

I would be most happy to read a letter from you, and hope to soon as I get home.

From your affectionate scholar, O.

Callao, P—, on ship-board, *April, 1856.*

Kind Sir:—I sit down to write you a few lines, hoping they will find you in as good health, though not quite so confined as I am. We are now in Callao, the seaport of Lima, distance seven miles, connected by railroad, and which I mean to visit before the ship leaves. Five of the men are on shore to-day; my turn will come soon. I expect the ship will come to New York or Baltimore with her cargo, and I expect to get back to the States some time in October, and shall take a course in your latitude to see the old ship of which you are captain, and where I learned what little I do know, and where I sometimes wish I was again, but it is too late for that. When I come back to the States I will give an account of the Temple in Lima. The roof is of solid silver, with pillars of the same material. But I must come to a close. Give my love to all the officers, and accept the best respects of your former pupil,

C.

N. B., *April 13, 1856.*

Mr. B. Dear Sabbath School Teacher:—I received a letter from you a short time since, and was very glad to hear from you, and am sorry that I neglected writing so long. I have been wanting to come and make a visit to the school, but I have not been able. I feel greatly thankful to you for your kind instructions;

they have not been lost by the cares of this world, but through the grace of God I trust I have been led to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world, to cast myself upon his care, to live a watchful and prayerful life. It is but a short time since that I was called to pay the last respects to my dear sister A.; her trust was in God, and in her last moments she seemed calm. I did not know she was so near her end until a few hours before she died, but I felt to trust and to look to God, who gave and who taketh away, and believe his word, which promises me that we shall meet again on that great day when he shall raise the dead and change the living; where we shall meet to part no more, but dwell forever with the Lord. O! I hope you will pray for me, that I may stand acquitted in that day. Tell all your scholars to give their hearts to the Saviour, and learn of him. I must now close, as it is almost time for me to go to the Sabbath school, in which I have an interesting class of boys, one of whom has just come from the institution. He is a good boy.

Your scholar respectfully, B.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE TRUSTEES
OF THE
STATE REFORM SCHOOL,
AT WESTBOROUGH;
TOGETHER WITH
THE ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOSTON:
WILLIAM WHITE, PRINTER TO THE STATE.
1857.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

In obedience to the 40th chapter of the statute of the year 1857, the Trustees of the State Reform School at Westborough respectfully present to the Governor and Council the condition and operations of that institution, for ten months ending the 30th September, 1857.

By the blessing of our Heavenly Father, the Great Ruler of the Universe, the institution has continued to perform its mission of mercy and reformation to a large number of boys, whose greatest misfortune was the want of faithful and judicious parents. In many cases their crimes were the result of unfavorable circumstances, more than any innate depravity of heart. Hence the value of this institution in saving from crime and consequent misery, present and future, the young and the tender, and training them to habits of industry, morality and good citizenship.

In a pecuniary, as well as a moral and religious aspect, the *reformation* of the boy is of vast consequence to the State. It

is cheaper to educate and train in the Reform School, than it is to punish in the jails, the penitentiary, or on the gallows. But all considerations of profit vanish at once, when the great interests of the immortal being are brought to view, and when the consequences of youthful depravity on the one hand, or youthful virtue and intelligence on the other, are seen in the future man.

The largest number of boys in the school during the past year has been 614 ; a number greater than has ever been in the institution at any one time before, and more than can be suitably accommodated.

The whole number that have been received since the commencement of the institution is 2,138, and the number remaining on the 30th of September, was 613.

It is confidently believed that the history of the institution for nearly eleven years in which it has been in operation, will show in its results that much more than a majority of its inmates have been reformed, and are becoming good citizens ; while many others have been greatly improved, morally and intellectually, and perhaps saved from greater crimes ; while none, we feel sure, are made worse for a residence of from one to five years under the ameliorating influence and atmosphere of the institution. The reformation of the boy, therefore, however low and vicious he may have been, is no longer an experiment ; and the expense of this institution to the State may therefore be considered as a most judicious and valuable use of its means, and its powers to do good.

And as some of even our thoughtful and benevolent citizens may have had fears that this large annual expenditure is hardly justified, the Trustees would invite all such to visit the institution, and see how the appropriation is expended, and study for themselves the working of the system, and the results already realized.

It is a source of modest and grateful pride, that Massachusetts was a pioneer in establishing reform schools for boys, as well as industrial schools for girls.

The wisdom of our government in thus saving her children from crime, and leading them to a higher and better life, we rejoice to know has been followed by many others ; and the

great idea which has its foundation in the very essence of Christianity, that *reformation* as well as punishment is the duty of the State, is becoming a “fixed fact” in the policy of most of the sister States of our Union.

Impressed with these views, the Board of Trustees would refer with much satisfaction to the accompanying Reports of the Superintendent, Chaplain, Physician and Treasurer, for statistical tables, and other details, in their respective departments, which we believe will fully show that the institution has never been in a better working condition, and is carrying out the benevolent design of its founder, and of the government.

An important change in the government of the institution has occurred the past year. In December last, Mr. Jas. M. Talcott resigned the office of Superintendent, and Mr. W. E. Starr, of Worcester, was appointed in his place. As the office of Superintendent is the highest in the institution under the Trustees, the Board deemed it advisable to make the induction of the new Superintendent an occasion of an impressive public service. A very able, appropriate, and instructive address was delivered by the Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell, Secretary of the Board of Education, and remarks were made by the Hon. Simon Brown, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, by Lieut. Governor Benchley, by the venerable Robert Rantoul, Esq., of Beverly, Rev. Bradford K. Peirce, Superintendent of the Industrial School for Girls, and by other gentlemen. A large number of ladies and gentlemen, who take a deep interest in the progress of the school, were present, as were also all the officers of the institution, and all its inmates, who numbered on that day 576.

The exercises throughout commanded the most earnest attention from guests and boys, and all seemed happier and better for having assisted in the inauguration of the new Superintendent.

The Trustees are very glad to be able to say, that their confident expectations in regard to the valuable services of the new Superintendent, Mr. Starr, and of Mrs. Starr, acting as Matron, have been fully justified and confirmed.

The station of Superintendent is one of great care, labor,

and responsibility ; requiring an amount of wisdom, sagacity, and judgment superior to most places of instruction and government in the Commonwealth. We believe that the present incumbent exercises those qualities in a high degree.

The Chaplain's department, one of vast importance to the highest welfare of the boys, involving much of the spiritual as well as the temporal well-being of those under its charge, we are happy to know is in a very prosperous condition. All that well directed zeal, industry, and a love of the work can do, to lead the boys in the paths of wisdom, is done by the Rev. Mr. Sleeper, the Chaplain of the institution.

The other officers, the teachers and employees of the school, more than thirty in number, are faithfully performing their respective duties ; thus making the administration and instruction of the institution harmonious, effective and valuable.

The semi-monthly visitation, by one or more of the Board of Trustees, has been faithfully continued during the year. Reports in writing of such visitations are entered in a book kept for that purpose, and are read at each quarterly meeting of the Trustees. This arrangement, we believe, is a very beneficial one ; insuring, as it does, the deliberate opinion of each member of the Board of the defects and the improvements of the institution.

The schools, eight in number, are an important part of the disciplinary arrangement of the institution ; two sessions a day, of two hours each, are held by them, the remainder of the time being occupied in labor, sleep, refreshment and recreation. It has been the policy of the Board to employ the best teachers they could procure in the country ; hence good progress has usually been made by the pupils. A thorough semi-annual examination, in June and November, of all the schools, is made by the Committee of the Board, who have especial charge of that department, occupying two days at each time ; and full reports of such examination are made to the Board, and are entered on its records. There are scholars in some of those schools who would compare favorably with the pupils of the high schools of our larger towns. The education of the boys of the institution, therefore, is well attended to.

It is an interesting and quite suggestive fact, that one of the best teachers in these schools was a former inmate of the Reform School, and received there the greater part of his education.

The Library—an interesting and important part of the institution—is under the care of the Committee on Schools, and has received their frequent attention. Seventy-five dollars per annum, by an Act of the legislature, have been used for the purchase of suitable books, and the income of “The Mary Lamb Fund,” amounting to sixty dollars, has been appropriated by the Board for the same purpose. There are now in the library 1,168 volumes, and the books are much read by the boys, furnishing them a valuable source of amusement and instruction.

So numerous have been the commitments to the institution by police courts and magistrates, that we have found it necessary to notify them that no more could be received for a time. Those courts have sometimes sent to the school boys so young, that they were better fitted for the nursery than the more rigid discipline of a reform school. We hope this error will not be repeated.

The large number of boys committed during the past year on *short sentences*, or, terms less than during minority, renders it necessary for the Trustees again to remind magistrates of the tendency of such commitments to *almost* wholly frustrate the original design of the founders of this institution, the design of which was not for a preventive, but a reformatory school. And when boys are committed on short times, they are led to suppose that it is retributive for past offences, and they have just so long to remain, and then their crime is expiated, and thus there is but little inducement to reform; and when their sentence expires, they return to their old associates, and frequently to their former habits, and *almost* to certain ruin.

Whereas, when committed during their minority, they look upon the superintendent as their foster-father, and the institution as a certain home, and that nothing but their good behavior can release them. And when their conduct is such as to render it safe,—if they have parents or friends who are suitable persons to care for them,—they can be discharged as reformed; or if

some doubt should remain as to permanent reformation, they are bound by the Trustees to their friends; and then, if again led away by temptation, and need farther restraint, they can be returned without the process of trial, or appearing before a magistrate, which acts as a continual inducement for them to do well, and permanent reformation is more easily effected.

And it is much more important that commitment be during minority, when they have not suitable homes to which they can return, as it then gives the Trustees an opportunity to provide places for them where they will be well cared for and suitably restrained.

It appears from Table 11th of the Superintendent's Report, that twenty-eight boys have been received at the Reform School, during the past year, who were over sixteen years of age. To prevent a repetition of this evil, whether arising from inadvertence of the magistrate or from misrepresentations made to him, we would suggest an amendment of the laws, requiring the committing magistrate to state in the mittimus the ages of all boys committed to the State Reform School.

As soon as the boys are sufficiently educated and reformed, they are apprenticed to farmers and mechanics in the country, where they will not be exposed to the temptations of city life, and will grow up with good habits. Some become mariners, and in that employment have an opportunity to become useful men.

The management of the farm being with the Board of Agriculture, a report of its condition must come from them rather than from us. We are glad to be able to state that a much larger number of the boys have been employed on the farm the last year than heretofore. For the physical, as well as moral improvement of the boys, we think that work in the open air—in the broad fields and under the cheering light of the sun, on the farm, is preferable to all other kinds of employment.

The garden, which is under our control, has been well cultivated and productive the past season. If the orchard on the north side of the garden could be placed under our care, in connection with the garden, it would, in our judgment, be a judicious arrangement.

The stable and carriage-house of the institution were built at

different times, and have always been inferior in their accommodations and appearance. They have now become much dilapidated and inconvenient for use. The Board are of the opinion that an appropriation should be made by the State, for a new brick stable and carriage-house, which would probably cost some \$2,000.

To meet the ordinary expenses of the current year, we think the sum of \$44,000 will be necessary, viz. :—

For provisions and clothing for 600 boys, at \$45,	\$27,000 00
For salaries, wages, and support of officers, .	12,000 00
For fuel, light, and current expenses, . .	8,000 00
For repairs and incidental expenses, . . .	3,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$50,000 00
Deduct estimated receipts for boys' labor, .	6,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$44,000 00

The Act of the legislature for the year 1856, chapter 150, providing for "the support of certain inmates of the State Reform School," has not been found to be of any practical value ; as from the advice of able legal counsel, we have learned that it could not be enforced. Further legislation is necessary if the objects of that Act are considered desirable.

In conclusion, while we feel that a great and responsible duty devolves upon us in the management of this institution, yet we rejoice that we may thus be instrumental in promoting the highest objects of philanthropy and a good government—the reformation and the education of ignorant and erring children.

And in this connection, we feel it a grateful duty often to recur to the far-sighted wisdom, sagacious judgment, and Christian benevolence of the founder of this noble institution. Let all honor and respect, then, be given to the name of THEODORE LYMAN, without whose efforts and whose donations and bequests of a fortune, it would never, in all human probability, have existed in its present form and usefulness. While this noble edifice, so beautifully situated, will be a lasting monument of

his Christian philanthropy, a more enduring memorial will exist through coming ages, in the thousands of youth who shall be taken from homes of crime and ignorance, and shall here learn the great practical truth that—

“Wisdom’s ways are ways of pleasantness,
And all her paths are peace.”

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY W. CUSHMAN.

JOHN A. FITCH.

PARLEY HAMMOND.

JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.

SIMON BROWN.

THOS. A. GREENE.

JOSIAH H. TEMPLE.

WESTBOROUGH, Oct. 14, 1857.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents the Eleventh Annual Report.

The Treasurer charges himself, from December 1, 1856, to September 30, 1857, inclusive, as follows:—

For cash on hand, per last Report,	\$2,873 15
For amount received from the State Treasury, . .	38,500 00
For amount received from Mary Lamb Fund, . .	71 99
For amount of two notes received from Comstock, Cole & Co., not due at the date of last Report,	\$781 44
	715 60
For amount received from A. Davis & Co.,	279 31
	<hr/> 1,776 35
For amount received for labor of boys,	5,610 57
For sundries,	1,247 15
	<hr/> \$50,079 21

There is now due the institution for the labor of boys, the following sums:—

From Comstock, Cole & Co., two notes, payable as follows:—

December 1-4,	\$632 80
February 1-4,	774 72
From A. Davis & Co.,	232 54
	<hr/> \$1,640 06

And he credits himself for the following payments:—

Clothing,	\$4,106 41	
Provisions and groceries,	19,720 87	
General improvements and repairs,	4,121 28	
Furniture and bedding,	2,652 14	
Fuel and lights,	4,725 68	
Salaries and wages,	9,300 33	
Leather, tools, and material for the shoe shop,	721 36	
School books and stationery,	867 36	
Library books, (\$71.99 of which has been paid from the Mary Lamb Fund, by order of the Trustees, and the balance, \$75.00, from the general appropriation,)	146 99	
Transportation,	711 97	
Postage,	27 32	
Hospital expenses,	64 94	
Trustees' expenses,	329 17	
Miscellaneous,	1,426 09	
	<hr/>	\$48,921 91
Cash on hand,		1,157 30
		<hr/>
		<u>\$50,079 21</u>

Tools and Materials for the Shoe Shop, include

Leather, 595 $\frac{3}{4}$ feet,	\$170 65
Leather, 1,721 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	528 66
Tools,	11 30
Pegs, tacks, wax, &c.,	10 75
	<hr/>
	\$721 36

Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials on general repairs, . . .	\$1,137 59
Repairing steam boiler and other iron work, .	111 01
Lightning rods,	369 51
Grist mill, pulleys, and other fixtures, . .	382 43
Soap-stone, cloths, boiler,	41 90
Bath tub, lead pipe, pumps and repairing, .	560 50
Paints and painting,	434 20
Paper hangings,	79 01
Whitewashing and brushes,	300 00
Locks, keys, knobs, hinges, &c.,	28 30
Carpenters' and blacksmiths' tools,	12 00
Repairing slating,	172 85
Steam pipes and repairing,	168 24
Enlarging steam mill,	36 95
Labor and materials in repairing Peter's house,	161 00
Grading in front of institution, and cutting down road,	107 50
Glass,	18 29
	<hr/>
	\$4,121 28

Books, Stationery and Printing, include

School books,	\$580 18
Slates, 12 dozen,	10 08
Duntonian writing books, 95 dozen,	90 20
Paper, pens, ink, &c.,	44 04
Maps of Middlesex and Worcester Counties, .	10 00
Pelton's physical and political outline maps, 1 set,	20 00
Youth's Companion, 10 copies,	7 20
Daily Journal,	6 34
Evening Traveller,	5 00
Printing, \$73.24 ; Advertising, \$21.08, . .	94 32
	<hr/>
	\$867 36

Furniture and Bedding, include

Ticking, 868 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	\$105 40
Sheeting, 2,692 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	268 49
Table linen, \$16.26 ; napkin rings, 4 doz., \$6, .	22 26
Jean, 732 yards, \$62.22 ; crash, \$2.08, . . .	64 30
Diaper for spreads, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	16 75
Lancaster quilts, 18,	24 21
Blankets, 200,	517 00
Prints, 491 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	44 41
Straw for beds, 18,890 pounds,	90 23
Thread, 19 pounds,	17 75
Shears, 6 pairs, needles and thimbles, . . .	8 76
Carpeting, 310 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	188 86
Mats, 9 ; Baskets,	14 75
Hair for pillows, 219 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	54 79
Pillows and bolsters, 3 sets,	23 40
Mattresses, 4 hair and 4 husk,	80 50
Feather bed,	22 50
Bureaus, 2,	25 00
Bedsteads, 4, \$21.75 ; sinks, 3, \$18.50, . . .	40 25
Chairs, 10 ; rockers, 4 ; cricket, 1,	20 87
Centre tables, 4 ; table covers, 5,	52 71
Mirrors, 5, \$5.50 ; stool for seraphine, \$5, .	10 50
Towel racks and curtain fixtures,	7 03
Pails, 8 dozen,	37 99
Tubs, clothes-pins and other wooden ware, .	26 09
Knives and forks, \$80.81 ; spoons, \$35.74, .	116 55
Crockery,	181 80
Glass and earthen ware,	21 05
Tin and iron ware,	72 33
Lanterns, \$21.50 ; lamps, 12, 1 large solar, \$24.62,	46 12
Chimneys and shades,	19 25
Brooms, 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen,	64 80
Brushes, floor and scrubbing,	52 61
Stoves, funnel and repairing,	231 70
Coal-hods and shovels,	16 50
Refrigerator, 1,	12 00
Sundry small articles,	22 63

 \$26,652 14

Clothing, includes

Satinets, 4,096 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	\$2,372 39
Cloth and clothing for apprentices,	112 72
Suspenders, 13 $\frac{1}{6}$ dozen,	20 47
Cutting clothing,	4 00
Denims, 1,188 yards,	178 20
Cotton cloth, 2,743 yards,	291 92
Vesting, 150 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	42 17
Silesia, 35 $\frac{3}{4}$ yds., \$8.33; canvas, 103 yds., \$13.84,	22 17
Palm leaf hats, 13 dozen,	18 20
Caps, 49,	28 92
Visors, 21 gross, \$74.08; cloth for caps, 190 yards, \$26.78,	100 86
Cambric, 418 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	32 17
Thread, 104 pounds, \$68.93; silk, \$14.08,	83 01
Scissors, 4 pairs; needles and tapes,	7 65
Buttons, 118 $\frac{3}{4}$ gross; 102 gross S. R. S.,	110 77
Socks, 120 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen,	306 96
Boots, 27 pairs, \$73.50; shoes, 65 pairs, \$65.80,	139 30
Yarn, 142 pounds,	135 03
Handkerchiefs and cravats,	52 00
Combs, 34 gross,	32 24
Sundries,	15 26
	<hr/>
	\$4,106 41

Provisions and Groceries, include

Flour, 753 barrels,	\$5,975 22
Rye Meal, 201 bushels,	215 25
Indian Meal, 680 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels,	701 40
Buckwheat, 375 pounds,	11 58
Beef, 51,823 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	4,111 34
Tongue, 69 pounds,	8 62
Pork, 2,304 pounds,	275 32
Ham, 480 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	64 18
Mutton, 128 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	15 60
Veal, 1,546 pounds,	164 63
Tripe, 247 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	21 51
Fish, 6,903 pounds,	223 10
Oysters, 19 gallons,	32 22
Poultry, 391 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	61 28

Potatoes, 336 bushels,	\$265 91
Beans, 79 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels,	163 73
Peas, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	34 51
Rice, 38,963 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	1,769 13
Salt, \$40.77 ; ice, \$35.56,	76 33
Sugar, 3,977 pounds,	484 93
Coffee, 394 pounds, \$55.20 ; tea, 135 lbs., \$65.65,	120 85
Chocolate, 2,101 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	432 75
Molasses, 3,628 gallons,	1,649 86
Butter, 3,228 pounds,	792 51
Cheese, 420 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	55 47
Vinegar, 330 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons,	38 85
Apples, 8 barrels,	18 97
Lard, 1,009 lbs., \$163.80 ; tallow, 97 lbs., \$9.21,	173 01
Dried Apple, 142 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	23 00
Eggs, 304 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen,	67 94
Hops, 119 pounds,	10 11
Raisins, 6 boxes ; figs, 25 lbs. ; and other fruit, .	37 12
Pepper, 50 lbs. ; starch, 71 lbs. ; and other groceries,	19 13
Soap, 4,233 lbs., \$247.74 ; potash, 1,091 lbs.,	
\$95.39,	343 13
Cream Tartar, \$31.84 ; saleratus, \$13.37, . . .	45 21
Milk, 7,289 gallons,	946 76
Strawberries, 66 boxes ; raspberries, 137 boxes, .	32 48
Peaches, 23 bushels,	40 25
Pears, various kinds,	42 01
Berries, currants, and other fruit from the garden,	13 42
Crackers, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels,	29 35
Beets, 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	11 96
Squashes, 647 pounds,	7 43
Cucumbers and other garden vegetables, . . .	59 41
Sundries,	34 10
	<hr/>
	\$19,720 87

Fuel and Lights, include

Coal, 488 tons gross,	\$4,115 06
Wood, 71 cords,	409 71
Oil, 214 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons,	192 91
Wicks and matches,	8 00
	<hr/>
	\$4,725 68

Miscellaneous, includes

Expenses in pursuing and returning elopers,	\$76 30
Expenses in returning boys to their friends,	22 00
Travelling expenses on business for the institution,	87 66
Visiting apprentices,	24 45
Expenses in pursuing and returning apprentices who have left their places,	53 57
Conveying Sab. School Teachers to the institution,	125 00
Coffins and expenses of funerals,	22 25
Repairing carryall, chaise, sleigh, and other car'ges,	60 12
Whips, and repairing harnesses,	12 35
Grain for horses, 170 bushels,	172 22
Hay, $5\frac{3}{4}$ tons,	62 24
Hay cutter,	10 00
Blacksmith work,	82 02
Tools for chair-seating shop,	18 30
Garden seeds,	8 62
Butchering,	24 00
Interest,	61 74
Wheelbarrow, hoes, 80; shovels, iron rakes and other garden tools,	73 57
Axes, 3, and helves,	5 46
Foot balls, 6,	7 35
Single sleigh, 1,	18 00
Wagon,	70 00
Leading hose for engine with 4 couplings, 202 feet,	203 90
Ploughing garden and grounds near the institution,	20 55
Large Dorsey boat and oars,	29 10
Sundries,	75 34

\$1,426 09

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the State Reform School.

We hereby certify that we have examined the accounts of the Treasurer of the State Reform School, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER, } *Auditing Committee.*
JOHN A. FITCH, }

WESTBOROUGH, October 13, 1857.

LYMAN FUND.

The principal of this fund is the same as it was

November 29, 1856, \$20,000 00

Income on hand November 29, 1856, . \$750 00

Received interest of H. Dodge, . . . 16 72

Jan. Received dividend on 53 shares

Fitchburg Railroad, . . . 159 00

Received dividend on 60 shares

Boston and Worcester R. R., 240 00

July. Received dividend on 60 shares

Boston and Worcester R. R., 180 00

Received dividend on 53 shares

Fitchburg Railroad, . . . 159 00

\$1,504 72

Less, 420 87

(Which sum has been appropriated, by order of
the Trustees, in moving and repairing Peter's
house) leaving

Income on hand, \$1,083 85

No dividend received on the other stocks since the last Report.

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the Lyman Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, September 30, 1857.

MARY LAMB FUND.

The principal of this fund is the same as stated
in the last Report November 29, 1856, . . . \$1,000 00

Income on hand November 29, 1856, . . .	\$37 50	
Aug. 11. Received interest to date, . . .	60 00	
	<hr/>	\$97 50
Less,		71 99
		<hr/>

(Which amount has been appropriated, by order
of the Trustees, for the purchase of library
books, and accounted for in the general state-
ment) leaving

Amount of income on hand, \$25 51

This fund is loaned to the city of Worcester.

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the Mary Lamb Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, September 30, 1857.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School, the following summary history of the Institution for the past ten months is respectfully submitted.

TABLE 1,

Shows the number received and discharged, and the general state of the School for the ten months ending September 30, 1857.

Boys in School December 1, 1856,	599
since committed,	229
Apprentices returned by masters,	28
arrested and returned who had left masters,	6
returned voluntarily, who had left masters,	8
Whole number in School,	870
Boys discharged or apprenticed,	242
remanded to alternative sentence,	4
returned to masters,	1
escaped,	4
died,	6
Remaining in School September 30, 1857,	613

TABLE 2,

Shows the Commitments from the several Counties the past ten months, and previously.

COUNTIES.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable,	1	8	9
Berkshire,	15	64	79
Bristol,	18	192	210
Dukes,	—	2	2
Essex,	50	372	422
Franklin,	1	13	14
Hampden,	6	123	129
Hampshire,	6	24	30
Middlesex,	41	329	370
Nantucket,	1	13	14
Norfolk,	27	164	191
Plymouth,	2	22	24
Suffolk,	36	391	427
Worcester,	25	192	217
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 3,

Shows the Admissions, Discharges, and average number for each month.

MONTHS.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Average No.
December, 1856,	12	34	592.2
January, 1857,	26	20	577.6
February, "	16	22	575.6
March, "	24	46	564
April, "	27	34	544.8
May, "	35	17	557.8
June, "	48	22	579.3
July, "	37	24	597.7
August, "	20	11	606
September, "	26	27	610.3
Totals,	271	257	580.5

TABLE 4,

*Shows the disposal of those discharged from December 1, 1856,
to September 30, 1857, and previously.*

DISPOSAL.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Discharged by Board of Trustees,	46	336	382
“ on expiration of sentence,	35	139	174
Remanded to alternative sentence,	4	72	76
Returned to masters,	1	12	13
Discharged by order of Court,	—	8	8
Escaped,	4	11	15
Died,	6	25	31
Indentured to Bakers,	1	7	8
Barbers,	3	15	18
Blacksmiths,	—	11	11
Boiler Makers,	—	2	2
Bookbinders,	—	1	1
Boot and Shoemakers,	41	311	352
Brass Founders,	—	2	2
Butchers,	1	1	2
Cabinet Makers,	—	6	6
Calico Printers,	—	1	1
Carpenters,	5	37	42
Caterers,	—	1	1
Cigar Makers,	—	1	1
Clerks,	2	7	9
Clergymen,	—	1	1
Comb Makers,	—	4	4
Coopers,	1	7	8
Cotton Manufacturers,	2	4	6
Daguerreotypists,	—	1	1
Engineers,	—	1	1
Engravers,	—	1	1
Farmers and Gardeners,	46	273	319
Farmers and Shoemakers,	17	15	32
File Makers,	—	1	1
Fresco Cleaners,	—	1	1
Harness Makers,	—	5	5
Jewellers,	2	—	2
Lumber Dealers,	—	1	1
Japanners,	—	1	1
Machinists,	3	11	14
Mahogany Chair Makers,	—	2	2
Marble Workers,	2	1	3
Masons,	—	13	13
Merchants,	—	3	3
Millers,	—	1	1
Moulders,	2	3	5
Musical Instrument Makers,	—	1	1
Painters,	1	14	15
Paper Hangers,	—	1	1

TABLE 4—Continued.

DISPOSAL.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Indentured to Pianoforte Makers, . . .	—	1	1
Plumbers,	—	1	1
Pocketbook Makers,	—	1	1
Pump and Block Makers,	—	1	1
Printers,	—	4	4
Ropemakers,	1	—	1
Sailmakers	—	3	3
Sawmakers,	—	1	1
Sea Captains,	1	10	11
Ship Carp'tr & Boatbuilders,	—	5	5
Shoe Tool Makers,	1	2	3
Silver Platers,	—	6	6
Sleighmakers,	—	1	1
Stonecutters,	1	2	3
Tack Makers,	—	1	1
Tailors,	3	13	16
Tanners and Curriers,	—	13	13
Tin and Sheet Iron Workers,	—	3	3
Trunk Makers	—	3	3
Veneer Sawyers,	—	1	1
Wheelwrights,	3	6	9
Wireworkers,	1	—	1
Wood Turners,	—	2	2
Woolen Weavers,	1	—	1
Attend School,	20	39	59
Riggers,	—	1	1
Totals,	257	1,492	1,749

In the Annual Reports of my predecessors the attention of the Board has been frequently called to some of the evils incident to our method of apprenticing boys; and it is to be regretted that there are so many instances of want of congeniality between the master and his apprentice. It seems desirable to know more about the master than that the selectmen of his town have certified, in general terms, to his fitness “to bring up a boy.” A man who is eminently fit to manage one boy may be eminently unfit to manage another; hence, many apprentices will be likely to leave their masters, or serve them but poorly, unless the fitness be mutual. It is believed that some of our most promising boys are doing worse, as apprentices, than others who were far less promising; still, a great number are acting their part nobly, and bid fair to be ornaments in their respective communities.

TABLE 5,

Shows the length of time the boys had been in the Institution, who left during the past ten months, and also during the three preceding years.

TIME.					Past 10 mos.	Preceding three Years.	Total.
In School less than one Month,	.	.	.	.	—	5	5
In School 1 Month,	.	.	.	.	1	10	11
2 Months,	.	.	.	.	6	12	18
3 "	.	.	.	.	4	10	14
4 "	.	.	.	.	6	9	15
5 "	.	.	.	.	5	10	15
6 "	.	.	.	.	5	17	22
7 "	.	.	.	.	5	10	15
8 "	.	.	.	.	2	16	18
9 "	.	.	.	.	2	17	19
10 "	.	.	.	.	9	19	28
11 "	.	.	.	.	8	21	29
12 "	.	.	.	.	18	90	108
13 "	.	.	.	.	10	30	40
14 "	.	.	.	.	7	32	39
15 "	.	.	.	.	7	26	33
16 "	.	.	.	.	6	26	32
17 "	.	.	.	.	9	29	38
18 "	.	.	.	.	7	28	35
19 "	.	.	.	.	7	22	29
20 "	.	.	.	.	4	27	31
21 "	.	.	.	.	7	17	24
22 "	.	.	.	.	5	32	37
23 "	.	.	.	.	2	27	29
24 "	.	.	.	.	16	46	62
25 "	.	.	.	.	7	23	30
26 "	.	.	.	.	4	20	24
27 "	.	.	.	.	6	19	25
28 "	.	.	.	.	4	13	17
29 "	.	.	.	.	1	8	9
30 "	.	.	.	.	6	17	23
31 "	.	.	.	.	7	7	14
32 "	.	.	.	.	8	9	17
33 "	.	.	.	.	4	8	12
34 "	.	.	.	.	6	9	15
35 "	.	.	.	.	2	4	6
36 "	.	.	.	.	11	14	25
37 "	.	.	.	.	3	7	10
38 "	.	.	.	.	2	7	9
39 "	.	.	.	.	2	4	6
40 "	.	.	.	.	1	9	10
41 "	.	.	.	.	2	9	11
42 "	.	.	.	.	2	3	5

TABLE 5—Continued.

TIME.					Past 10 mos.	Preceding three Years.	Total.
In School 43 Months,	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
44	"	.	.	.	3	3	6
45	"	.	.	.	2	1	3
46	"	.	.	.	1	6	7
47	"	.	.	.	2	4	6
48	"	.	.	.	2	2	4
49	"	.	.	.	2	1	3
50	"	.	.	.	1	2	3
51	"	.	.	.	1	4	5
52	"	.	.	.	—	3	3
53	"	.	.	.	1	1	2
54	"	.	.	.	—	1	1
55	"	.	.	.	2	1	3
56	"	.	.	.	—	1	1
57	"	.	.	.	1	1	2
58	"	.	.	.	1	—	1
60	"	.	.	.	—	3	3
61	"	.	.	.	—	1	1
63	"	.	.	.	1	1	2
64	"	.	.	.	—	1	1
65	"	.	.	.	—	2	2
66	"	.	.	.	—	3	3
67	"	.	.	.	—	1	1
69	"	.	.	.	—	1	1
70	"	.	.	.	—	1	1
72	"	.	.	.	—	3	3
79	"	.	.	.	—	1	1
86	"	.	.	.	—	1	1
90	"	.	.	.	1	—	1
Totals,	.	.	.	.	257	831	1,088

Average, $22\frac{1}{2}$ months.

TABLE 6,

Shows by what authority the commitments during the past ten months have been made, and previously.

COMMITTED.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas, . . .	8	100	108
Boston Municipal Court, . . .	7	150	157
" Police " . . .	24	219	243
Adams " " . . .	2	1	3
Blackstone " " . . .	—	1	1
Cambridge " " . . .	2	14	16
Chelsea " " . . .	3	6	9
Chicopee " " . . .	1	9	10
Fall River " " . . .	9	62	71
Haverhill " " . . .	—	5	5
Lawrence " " . . .	15	77	92
Lee " " . . .	1	4	5
Lowell " " . . .	1	74	75
Lynn " " . . .	5	37	42
Milton " " . . .	1	2	3
New Bedford " " . . .	2	59	61
Newburyport " " . . .	7	61	68
Pittsfield, " " . . .	5	36	41
Roxbury, " " . . .	14	18	32
Salem, " " . . .	9	117	126
Springfield, " " . . .	2	36	38
Taunton, " " . . .	—	15	15
Williamstown " " . . .	3	—	3
Worcester, " " . . .	9	90	99
Justices of the Peace, . . .	99	716	815
Totals, . . .	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 7,

*Shows the Offences of those committed the past ten months,
and previously.*

OFFENCES.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Accessory to larceny,	1	1	2
Arson,	—	3	3
Assault,	3	8	11
Assault and battery,	2	14	16
Attempt to burn a building,	—	2	2
Attempt at larceny,	—	1	1
Attempt to pass counterfeit money,	—	1	1
Attempt at robbery,	—	1	1
Barnburning,	—	1	1
Breaking and entering with intent to steal,	2	26	28
Burning a building,	—	2	2
Common drunkards,	2	10	12
Concealing stolen goods,	—	1	1
Burglary,	—	9	9
Giving spirits to persons under arrest,	—	1	1
Having obscene books and prints for cir- culation,	—	2	2
Housebreaking,	—	12	12
Forgery,	—	4	4
Idle and disorderly,	14	79	93
Larceny,	70	652	722
Pilfering,	2	11	13
Quarrelling and profanity,	—	1	1
Robbery from person,	—	4	4
Runaway,	2	19	21
Shopbreaking and stealing,	5	27	32
Shopbreaking with intent to steal,	1	25	26
Stubbornness,	110	819	929
Trespass,	—	11	11
Attempt to commit rape,	1	—	1
Disturbing a school,	1	—	1
Malicious mischief,	4	43	47
No offence mentioned,	—	1	1
Selling intoxicating liquors,	1	—	1
Vagrancy,	8	118	126
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 8,

Shows the length of Sentences the past 10 months, and previously.

SENTENCED.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	155	1,369	1,524
Until 20 years old,	—	5	5
19 " "	—	1	1
18 " "	2	9	11
17 " "	—	5	5
16 " "	1	—	1
15 " "	1	—	1
14 " "	—	2	2
For one year,	10	100	110
one year and four months,	—	1	1
one year and six months,	—	5	5
two years,	12	120	132
two years and six months,	—	4	4
two years and eight months,	2	—	2
two years, nine months, and eight days,	—	1	1
two years and ten months,	2	—	2
three years,	20	120	140
three years and six months,	1	—	1
three years and eight months,	2	—	2
four years,	7	70	77
four years and six months,	—	1	1
five years,	7	58	65
six "	4	23	27
seven "	1	4	5
eight "	1	7	8
nine "	—	1	1
ten "	1	3	4
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 9,

Shows the length of Alternative Sentences.

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCE.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	2	18	20
For seven years,	1	1	2
six years,	1	—	1
five years and three months,	—	1	1
five years,	1	4	5
four years,	—	11	11
three years and six months,	—	1	1
three years,	2	23	25
two years, nine months, and eight days,	—	1	1
two years and six months,	1	6	7
two years,	2	71	73
one year and six months,	—	20	20
one year and three months,	—	19	19
one year,	9	85	94
ten months,	—	3	3
nine "	—	5	5
eight "	—	7	7
six "	68	515	583
five "	1	15	16
four "	7	43	50
three "	37	280	317
two "	33	363	396
forty days,	—	1	1
one month,	54	310	364
less than one month,	10	105	115
unexpired portion of sentence,	—	1	1
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 10,

*Shows the Nativity of those committed the past ten months,
and previously.*

NATIVITY.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Born in Ireland,	30	245	275
New Brunswick,	6	44	50
England,	6	40	46
Canada,	5	17	22
Nova Scotia,	6	26	32
Scotland,	1	7	8
France,	—	1	1
Germany,	—	1	1
Italy,	1	1	2
West Indies,	—	2	2
Newfoundland,	2	1	3
Foreigners,	57	385	442
Born in Massachusetts,	130	1,214	1,344
Maine,	11	66	77
New Hampshire,	5	54	59
Vermont,	—	33	33
Rhode Island,	1	25	26
Connecticut,	5	26	31
New York,	15	78	93
New Jersey,	2	5	7
Pennsylvania,	—	7	7
Ohio,	1	—	1
Illinois,	—	3	3
Maryland,	—	4	4
Virginia,	—	6	6
District of Columbia,	—	2	2
Georgia,	1	—	1
Louisiana,	1	1	2
Natives,	172	1,524	1,696
Foreigners,			442
Natives,			1,696
Total,			2,138

Of the 1,696 born in the United States, 1,159 are of American parentage, 441 of Irish, 57 of English, 13 of French, 14 of Scotch, 9 of German, 1 of Danish, 1 of Spanish, 1 of Swedish.

TABLE 11,

Shows the Ages of boys when committed.

AGE.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Totals.
Six years,	—	4	4
Seven years,	3	15	18
Eight years,	2	55	57
Nine years,	17	98	115
Ten years,	17	182	199
Eleven years,	23	215	238
Twelve years,	30	240	270
Thirteen years,	33	296	329
Fourteen years,	31	327	358
Fifteen years,	44	371	415
Sixteen years,	19	70	89
Seventeen years, and over,	9	25	34
Unknown,	1	11	12
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

Average age, 13 years.

TABLE 12,

Shows the average Employment of the boys for the past ten months.

Employed by contractors, making shoes,	113.8
in making and repairing shoes for boys,	5.2
seating chairs,	111.1
sewing and knitting,	123.8
farming and gardening,	92.8
the laundry,	39
domestic work,	43.9
baking and cooking,	12.9
care of dining rooms,	11
miscellaneous work,	10.1
grading in front of the institution,	12.9
Confined to the hospital,	4
Total,	580.5

SHOE DEPARTMENT.

Messrs. Comstock, Cole & Co., of Boston, have employed an average of 113.8 boys through the ten months for which this Report is made, and have made 136,519 pairs of shoes.

In the shop where shoes are made and repaired for the boys, an average of 5.2 boys have been employed—in making 217 pairs of shoes, in closing 660 pairs, and in repairing 2,604 pairs of shoes and boots.

CHAIR-SEATING DEPARTMENT.

Here an average of 111.1 boys have plaited 27,565 seats, 2,125 backs, and 99 crickets.

FARM.

The Board of Agriculture have employed two hundred boys through the season of farm work, a greater number than in any previous year; but the average has been diminished by the unusual number of wet days, when it was unsuitable for them to be out.

SEWING AND KNITTING DEPARTMENT.

The average number of boys employed in this department has been 123.8, and the following

TABLE 13,
Shows the amount of Work done.

ARTICLES.	Made.	Repaired.
Jackets,	655	2,780
Pantaloons,	892	5,290
Vests,	161	—
Frocks,	12	—
Shirts,	737	3,645
Aprons,	80	405
Caps,	978	520
Mittens,	20	—
Socks,	652	3,180
Suspenders,	591	—
Handkerchiefs,	401	—
Sheets made, sheets and spreads repaired,	606	323
Pillow cases,	504	—
Bed ticks,	54	20
Blankets,	—	10
Towels,	16	—
Holders,	30	—
Whole number of articles,	6,389	16,173

LAUNDRY.

An average of 39 boys have washed and ironed 129,896 articles.

SCHOOLS.

The organization of the schools continues as formerly, there being four grades in each (old and new) department.

The boys received during the ten months have entered these grades as follows, viz.:—

The highest grade,	.	.	.	.	.	34
second “	.	.	.	.	.	46
third “	.	.	.	.	.	88
fourth “	.	.	.	.	.	111
Total,	.	.	.	.	.	<u>279</u>

Those discharged were from the several grades, as follows, viz.:—

From the highest grade,	.	.	.	.	134
second “	.	.	.	.	56
third “	.	.	.	.	37
fourth “	.	.	.	.	30
Total,	.	.	.	.	<u>257</u>

The promotions to higher grades were as follows, viz.:—

From fourth to third,	.	.	.	.	57
third to second,	.	.	.	.	100
second to highest,	.	.	.	.	119

Number in each grade, September 30, 1857 :—

Highest grade,	.	.	.	.	.	147
Second “	.	.	.	.	.	138
Third “	.	.	.	.	.	168
Fourth “	.	.	.	.	.	160
Total,	.	.	.	.	.	<u>613</u>

Of these there are—

That read books in general,	429
in easy lessons,	136
in monosyllables,	44
in the alphabet,	4
That have studied practical arithmetic, . . .	147
mental “	305
the simple rules of practical	
arithmetic,	25
through the simple rules, . . .	59
compound numbers, . . .	26
fractions,	33
the book,	4
geography,	138
physiology,	4
algebra,	4
English grammar,	18
That write on paper,	545
slates,	55

Through the past summer the schools have not been pressed to do as much as they might; but they are believed to be in good condition.

DAILY ROUTINE.

A. M.

At 5:20—Watchman calls teachers and overseers to enter on duty with the boys.

5:30—Boys rise and make their beds.

5:40—Pass to the yards and washrooms, and remain till 6.

6:00—Devotions commence, and continue till 6:20.

6:20—Breakfast, which takes about twenty minutes; after which they pass to the yards.

6:45—School commences, and continues till 8:45.

8:45—Boys go into the yards, and remain till 9.

9:00—Go to work, and remain till 12, except a short recess according to the season.

12:00—Yard and washrooms, till 12:15.

12:15—Dinner till 12:40, and pass into yards, there to remain till 1 P. M.

P. M.

1:00—Work till 4.

4:00—Yard and washrooms, till 4:20.

4:20—Supper till 4:40, after which remain in yards till 5.

5:00—School till 7.

7:00—Recess in yard, till 7:20.

7:20—Devotions till 7:40.

7:40—Retire.

The above is the routine at this season and through the cold part of the year; when the days are longer, the school hours are in the middle of the day.

In the chaplain's report will be found an account of the routine of religious exercises, as well as of the religious and moral condition of the institution; but he has omitted to mention *the valuable aid to the devotions* contributed by Mrs. Sleeper, with her organ and her choir of six hundred singers.

HEALTH.

We have great reason to thank God for so large a measure of health as He in his mercy has seen fit to bestow upon us and our youthful charge. The number of deaths has been greater than usual; but three of these were from diseases which had made progress before the boys entered the school, and a fourth from an injury received some months before the commencement of the year.

See physician's report.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

This important feature of our institution, under the superintendence of our excellent chaplain, assisted by the officers and by several benevolent ladies and gentlemen of this vicinity and of the village of Westborough, has not been neglected; but it has been performing its work in sowing the seed which, we trust, will bring forth fruit abundantly to the glory of God.

All thanks are due to our faithful corps of Sabbath school teachers.

THIRD DEPARTMENT.

In this department there are twenty lodges and a workshop, where those boys who exert a pernicious influence upon others, may be removed from contact with them.

The boys here work eight hours per day, and spend the rest of the time, each in his lodge, where he sleeps, reads, and eats, except that twice every day they are taken into the yard, when all the other boys are absent at their several duties.

The time of their stay in this department depends wholly on their behavior and the spirit they exhibit; but while here they can have no communication with the other boys: they see the others in the chapel only.

The discipline here is more strict than in the other departments: the food is the same. It was supposed that the accommodations of this department might not prove sufficient; but, instead of twenty, the average number has been four, and the greatest number twelve. The influence, so far, of this department, has not disappointed our expectations, which were very high.

The necessity that existed for such a department as this will be better understood, if I state the case of a single boy. Not long since we received a boy on a sentence to remain during his minority, but with an alternative sentence of one day in the house of correction at Worcester.

This boy was not a bad boy; still, he was very desirous of being remanded to his alternative sentence. Had it not been for our third department he would probably have been troublesome, in the hope that, in order to get rid of him, we would have him remanded, and in one day he would be at large.

This boy has given us no trouble.

DISCIPLINE.

In the discipline of boys I have not expected to "gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles," but have endeavored to sow that which I desired to reap. I have found very few children but that respect justice and reciprocate kindness; and I should be sorry to find that any boy under my care suspected me of any deficiency in either of these attributes. Without

repudiating the rod, then, I would never willingly be unjust or unkind; and would always be willing to square my own conduct by the same rule that I apply to theirs.

Much difference of opinion exists in regard to modes of punishment, but, in my opinion, the mode is of infinitely less importance than the spirit in which it is given and received. One boy would never acknowledge the justice of a blow; another could not believe in the benevolence of a person who deprives him of his accustomed food or amusement; and the person who should punish the same offence in the same manner, upon boys so different in feeling, might inflict a lasting injury on one of them. It follows that a boy needs to be measured for a punishment, as much as for a garment, if we would have it fit; and that *he* is not impartial, who always inflicts the same punishment for the same offence. He is the best disciplinarian who can best measure the offender and the offence.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We are indebted to Charles Merriam, Esq., of Springfield, for some five or six hundred volumes of books of a highly interesting and moral character, to be distributed to our boys; to the proprietors of the following journals and periodicals, which have been furnished gratuitously, viz.: "Boston Daily Bee," "Salem Register," "Massachusetts Spy," "National Ægis," "American Weekly Traveller," "Child's Paper," "Youth's Companion," and "Prisoner's Friend;" also, to Mr. John Ball, of Salem, for several packages of pamphlets and papers; and to Hon. Simon Brown, for several bundles of papers; and I fear I have not mentioned all whom I should remember in this connection.

These books, pamphlets, and papers are read by our boys with great avidity, and our hearty thanks are tendered to all who have remembered them in this way.

Our thanks are also due to the Sabbath school teachers, and to many citizens of Westborough, for kindness to our boys on various occasions.

Finally, I desire to express my thanks to the Board of Trustees, for the kindness with which they have aided me in the performance of my arduous duties, and for their generous sym-

pathy and forbearance when the novelty of my position made their sympathy so necessary to me ; and especially, to John A. Fayerweather, Esq., who being so much nearer than other members of the Board, has been so much more frequently called on for assistance. To the Assistant-Superintendent, and to all those associated with me in the labors of the institution, for their indefatigable labors, and their cordial coöperation, I tender my sincere thanks.

May He who alone can give efficacy to our labors, bless us all abundantly, and make us successful in the great work in which we are engaged.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. E. STARR,

Superintendent.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, Westborough, }
September 30, 1857. }

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*To the Trustees of the State Reform School, at Westborough,
Massachusetts.*

GENTLEMEN:—We have great reason for thankfulness to God, that, at the close of another year, we are able to record so much that is encouraging, and so little that is disheartening, in our efforts to reform the wayward. While in some instances we have met with disappointment, in others we have been greatly encouraged, and have become more and more convinced that our model Commonwealth has adopted a wise policy in liberally appropriating money for the prevention of crime. At the same time that wicked men, by the unlawful sale of intoxicating liquors and by other base means, are active in manufacturing criminals, the State, like a nursing mother, is throwing her arms around her children, and endeavoring to shield them from their enemies.

The following tables, exhibiting approximately the moral, social and domestic condition of the boys committed to the institution during the last ten months, will show very conclusively that the State is wisely doing its duty by providing for this class of persons.

TABLE 1.

	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Number committed,	229	1,909	2,138
Who have lost father,	40	527	567
Who have lost mother,	43	287	330
Who have lost both parents,	21	167	188
Whose fathers have no regular occupation,	27	681	711
Whose fathers are intemperate,	72	573	645
Whose mothers are intemperate,	8	29	37
Whose parents are both intemperate,	15	194	209
Whose parents example is otherwise morally pernicious,	62	1,008	1,070
Who have, or have had one or more members of their families in penal or reformatory institutions,	52	483	536

TABLE 2.

Showing the Habits, Arrests, &c.

	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Number committed,	229	1,909	2,138
Were mostly idle previous to commitment,	91	1,512	1,603
Were untruthful previous to commitment,	181	1,701	1,982
Used profane language,	161	1,564	1,725
Used obscene language,	47	1,263	1,310
Were truants,	134	1,334	1,468
Were Sabbath breakers,	81	1,340	1,421
Never attended Sabbath school,	37	322	359
Were irregular or occasional attendants,	120	1,307	1,427
Had a companionship more or less intimate with each other previous to admission,	148	1,462	1,610
Had frequented places of questionable amusement,	54	1,086	1,140
Had slept out nights in stables, sheds, boxes, and similar places,	65	908	973
Had used tobacco,	66	814	880
Had drank intoxicating liquors, many of them to excess,	24	510	534
Had been previously arrested once,	35	384	419
Had been previously arrested twice,	10	121	131
Had been previously arrested three times,	4	59	63
Had been previously arrested four times,	2	24	26
Had been previously arrested five times, or more,	2	50	52
Whole number previously arrested,	53	638	691
Had been in prisons, houses of detention, or reformatory schools,	19	453	472

A glance at these tables will show the necessity for an institution similar to this. Ninety-five of the two hundred and twenty-nine committed during the last ten months, or more than two-fifths of the whole number, had parents one or both of whom were intemperate. A still larger number had lost one or both parents. The parents of others had set other pernicious examples for their children to follow. More than four-fifths of the whole number were habitually untruthful, and nearly as many in the habit of using profane language. Many were idlers and truants, and a large proportion of the whole number have been guilty of larceny, though this fact does not appear in the tables.

The usual machinery for the reformation of these youth has been kept in motion during the term which has now come to a close, and we hope, not without a good degree of success.

The boys are assembled together at six o'clock in the morning for devotional exercises, when a portion of scripture is read and a short prayer offered. The prayer is always concluded with the Lord's Prayer, in which all the boys unite. At the evening services, before the prayer, the boys are called upon to recite in concert the Commandments, some portion of the Psalms which they have learned, or the Beatitudes. This exercise is usually performed with great propriety and interest.

The ceremony in the dining halls at all their meals is impressive, and I think designed to do the boys good. After the boys have marched in, in regular file, the tallest first and the shortest last, and taken their places silently at the tables, the officer says, "Merciful Father," and all the boys, with subdued voices, respond, "Make us thankful for this food, and for all other blessings. May it strengthen us and refresh us. May our souls be refreshed by thy grace. Amen."

The ceremony in the sleeping halls, when the boys retire, is equally interesting; and the friends of the institution, through your report, will be glad to know some of the particulars which make up the religious exercises of a day. After evening prayers, the boys all file into the sleeping halls, one of which can lodge, by crowding them, about three hundred, and the other two can lodge one hundred and fifty each. Each boy takes his position in the door of his dormitory, excepting those who sleep in berths. These stand in a line on the floor. When all are

so still that the slightest whisper can be heard, at the word, "recite," spoken by an officer, in a gentle whisper all say :

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take."

After this is recited, at a slight signal, each dormitory door is closed at the same instant, when the boys retire. The religious exercises on the Sabbath are like those on others days, with the addition of a Sabbath school at nine o'clock, a preaching service at eleven, and another in the afternoon.

Our course in the Sabbath school is the same as that mentioned in my last report,—requiring each boy to commit to memory seven verses a week, so as to be able to recite them accurately in the Sabbath school. Some part or the whole of the lesson is usually taken as a theme for my morning sermon. We have been greatly aided this year, as we ever have been, and always must be, by our faithful band of teachers, who come from the village, facing the winter's cold and bearing the summer's heat, to meet their classes every Sabbath.

The instruction which the boys receive in vocal music affords not only a pleasant pastime for them twice a week in each school, but is an indispensable help on the Sabbath day. Without our congregational singing, in which six hundred boys enter so heartily, especially when the tune is one they like, we could not enjoy the Sabbath exercises as we do.

The changes which have been made in the chapel, and the beautiful tablets, containing the "Ten Commandments" and the "Lord's Prayer," add much to its convenience and comeliness.

The "Class-meeting," which I mentioned in my last report, as having been formed for conversation and prayer with serious minded boys, has been continued, and I trust, with some good results. Several have given good evidence that they were sincere in their promises to live lives of piety and usefulness. More than thirty different boys have been members of this weekly meeting, many of whom have left the institution. One lad, who was invited to join the class the evening before he was to start for Maine where he was apprenticed, manifested deep

feeling, when he was reminded that this was a favorable opportunity to commence a Christian life, and promised that he would not let it slip. So far as his master and the family can judge, he has kept his word. This was seven months ago, and frequent letters inform me that his appearance and whole conduct exhibit the fruits of a believing heart. The step-mother of another boy who was a member of the "class-meeting," several months after he had left here, writes: "We think that his regular habits at Westborough will prove a lasting benefit to him. His master says 'he is a *good* boy,' and he really does appear well. I do not think there ever was a greater change in any one. I do hope he will 'hold out to the end.' Foolish things which used to delight him he appears to care nothing about."

Since our last report, there have been in the institution six deaths among the boys. The conversation had with them on their dying beds, showed that their consciences were nearer right than their lives. Their language was often, "I am sorry I ever swore,"—"I wish I was a *good* boy."

Rand died January thirteenth. His conversation during his sickness showed that he had thought upon the subject of salvation through Christ. He said, when asked how he expected to be saved,—“We can't be saved only through Christ.” He wept when he spoke of his past life, and said, “I was a good boy until I was ten years of age;” then he fell in with bad boys, and learned to swear and tell falsehoods. He spoke with much feeling of the last words of his dying mother, which were:—

“I lean my head on Jesus' breast,
And breathe my life out sweetly there.”

He looked happy when any one went to him to read the Bible, or talk with him about religious things. The day before he died, he said he thought “God had forgiven his sins;” he “hoped to be saved through Christ.”

I would like to speak particularly of a very interesting temperance address given to the boys, some time since, by Peter Sinclair, which they enthusiastically applauded as he fastened a story for them to remember on each thumb and finger; but my space will not allow it.

I would not close my report without urging upon your atten-

tion the necessity of employing an agent immediately to find the good homes in the East and West which are waiting to receive our surplus boys, if the subject had not already been laid before you by our superintendent and approved by yourselves.

A little effort that I made a few weeks ago, while visiting in New Hampshire, has confirmed my belief that the thing is practicable. With but little exertion and a day's time, I found places for four boys, who are now enjoying the luxury of happy homes.

W. T. SLEEPER.

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

WESTBOROUGH, October 8, 1857.*The Trustees of the State Reform School:—*

GENTLEMEN:—The following communication is intended to bring to your notice the material facts respecting the health of this institution, that have come under my observation since the annual report of last year. It will be seen that the mortality this year in this institution has exceeded the average of former years, there having been six deaths when there has been no prevailing sickness of importance excepting the usual pulmonary affections common to the winter and spring. A larger number than usual have suffered from accidental injuries, mostly of the head and spine, or from diseases of unusual occurrence. Three have died of disease of the brain. One of this number was injured by a fall upon the head, in July of last year, from the effects of which he partially recovered, so far as to attend school, but had a relapse, and died in December. The other two had been recently committed, and were seized with violent symptoms when first brought to the hospital; but from their history, it was inferred that the disease had been making latent progress before entering the institution.

Three have recovered from accidental injuries of the head and spine, who were for several days apparently in a critical condition.

There has been but one case of simple rheumatic fever, and one of inflammation of the bowels.

One died from constitutional hæmorrhage, associated with rheumatic fever and congestion of the lungs. This boy had

been subject to attacks of this kind, sometimes endangering life, from his earliest childhood.

Thirteen have occupied the hospital with bronchial inflammation, conjoined in most of the cases, with lung fever. Two of these died.

Hooping cough has been in the institution for the last ten weeks. Fifty or upwards have had it. It has now nearly disappeared, and is succeeded by influenza to a very general extent.

Yours respectfully,

H. H. RISING.

APPENDIX

TO THE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

EXTRACTS

FROM LETTERS FROM MASTERS, RELATIVE TO BOYS WHO
HAVE BEEN APPRENTICED.U——, *March 14, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—I sit down to write you a few lines in respect to the boy I took from that institution. He is a boy that suits me very well. I do not think I could better myself, if I should try fifty times. I think I shall come over before a great while, and bring the boy, so that you can see him, and ask him any questions that any of you wish. He wants to come and see the place and boys about once a year; and I think it better than writing to you, for you can judge for yourselves.

Yours, &c., R.

A——, *March 25, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—A. is enjoying good health, and I am glad to say, he is a good boy. He takes an interest in my business. He has grown very fast; has been to school the past winter, and has done very well. He also goes to the Sabbath school. I feel as if I had a boy that I can do by, as by a son.

Respectfully yours, S.

D——, *March 18, 1857.*

Sir:—One year has passed since you placed the boy under my care and direction. His behavior is good; indeed, better than I expected. He is always ready and willing to do his duty, and does it cheerfully. He has his faults, but take him all in all, he is an excellent boy. I like him very much; he is very obedient, minds his own business, and is no tattler. I could not have got a better boy to work.

Yours truly, T.

L——, *March 27, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—It gives me satisfaction to inform you in regard to A. V., who has been nearly three years in my family. The past year, he has done all that I could reasonably expect. His health is uniformly good; and he has taken a deeper interest in the business of the farm, desiring to make it more productive than ever before. He takes satisfaction in having the care of cattle and horses on the farm, and keeping them in good condition. A. has attended school fourteen weeks, the past winter, and reported himself a studious and obedient scholar. He attends church steadily on the Sabbath, with some of my family; and the Sabbath school while it keeps, during the warm part of the year.

Truly yours, C.

M——, *May 15, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—The peculiar trust imposed upon me by taking from your hands and care, E. C., late of your school, has, I trust, not been in vain to him or to

me; for the duties imposed thereby have been gratefully discharged, on account of his good conduct since he has been with me. The attention which he has paid to the observance of the Sabbath and the Sabbath school, has been creditable to him and highly gratifying to me. His attention to evening school has assisted him to understand more fully the rudiments of a common English education. His industry in his daily work is commendable; and upon the whole, I must say, he is as good a boy as I expected to find. He desires me to say, that he is grateful for the kindness and care he received while there, and hopes the boys will be faithful and obedient.

With respect, &c., G.

N. B——, *July 23, 1857.*

Sir:—The boy I took from the school July 16, 1856, is a very good boy indeed; very kind and agreeable; willing to do whatever may be required of him. He has not shown the least anger or stubbornness; never refused to go, or do any thing, when I directed him. He is very kind in my family; always obliging to my children. He has attended church and Sabbath school all the time. He attended school, what we had in the winter, and two weeks this present summer.

Yours respectfully, S.

T——, *September 10, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—As it is now nearly a year since I took G. from your institution, I proceed to fulfil the conditions of the indenture which calls for a statement as to his health, character, &c.; and it is with pleasure that I can say, his conduct has been very good, and his health all that could be expected, as he has been able to attend to his work every day; and to judge from the past, I think I shall have no trouble with him in the future, or regret having taken him away.

Yours, &c., B.

W——, *September 11, 1857.*

Sir:—The lad G. H. P. that I took from your school, I am happy to say, has been a very good boy this year past. He has been at school all the time; his teacher says, he is getting along very well, and he improves in his studies very well. His health has been very good. He sends his respects to all at the institution.

Yours with respect, T.

W——, *September 21, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—F. E., the boy I took from the State Reform School, is doing well. He still works with me at the boot-making business, and I have to say, that I like him well.

Your ob't, W.

EXTRACTS

FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM BOYS.

B—, *December 26, 1856.*

MR. HUTCHINSON:—Not doubting but that you would be glad to hear that one of your old boys was doing well, I thought I would write a few lines. I am learning the gilder's trade, and for an apprentice am doing well. I was sorry to hear that Mr. Talcott had left the institution. If there are any of the old boys there, please remember me to them, also to all my old friends—I include the officers in that word, for I can now see that they were my real friends. I have seen a good deal of the old boys, out; most of them are doing well.

Yours, K.

February 3, 1857.

MR. SLEEPER. Dear Sir:—I left Westborough in such a hurry, that I could not see you or Mrs. S., though I wanted to very much. I came away with the determination *to do right*. I will abide by my decision, and be a comfort to mother. I am under very great obligations to you for your kindness, and the trouble you had in my behalf.

Yours, &c., P.

N. A—, *March 1, 1857.*

MR. WM. E. STARR. Sir:—I thought I would try to pen you a few lines to let you know that I arrived safe in this place, at night, the same day I left the institution. I shall always be grateful to you for the kind attentions I received at your and Mr. Talcott's hands.

Yours respectfully, F.

L—, *April 6, 1857.*

MR. SLEEPER:—I am very thankful for the many blessings that I received while under the care of the institution. I think I learned a great deal there by which I shall profit. I used to go to meeting and Sabbath school when I was not more than six or eight years old, but when we moved to L. I left off going; but I shall now go to meeting every Sunday. Give my love to my companions, and tell them to try to do just what is right, and they will get along a great deal better. I know that from experience. I am in a printing office, and think I shall learn printing as my trade. I shall turn over a new leaf, as it were, and try my best to behave myself like a man; and with the help of God, I know I shall succeed. Give my love to Mr. Starr and Mr. Hutchinson, and tell them I shall never rue the day that I entered the State Reform School.

Good bye, W.

W—, *April 3, 1857.*

MR. HUTCHINSON. Dear Sir:—I received your kind and welcome epistle yesterday in the office. I need not say I was much pleased to hear from you.

All the folks send their best respects, and would like to see you at any time when it is convenient for you to come. I am glad to hear that so many boys had their liberty on Fast Day, and am pleased that D. was one of them. I saw —— a few days since, and they seemed to think, if he did well he would soon come away. But there is one thing I would remind him of: if he does not intend to be honest, he might as well be where he is as to be away; for he will always be in trouble and despised by every one. Give my best respects to all the officers and to the boys.

Respectfully yours, A.

L——, *May*.

MR. STARR. Sir:—Thinking you would like to hear from your former pupil, I now sit down to address you. I am sincerely thankful to you for your good instructions and kind attentions to me, and also to Mr. Hutchinson. Words can scarcely express my gratitude. Give my respects to Mr. Johnson, and to all the teachers I was under, and also to Mr. Sleeper. My going there was not without being very beneficial to me; but if I had not been put there, God only knows where I would have been now. I think I shall come up and make you a visit in July.

Yours with true sincerity, D.

P——, *June 26, 1857.*

Dear Friend:—I now take this opportunity to write you a few lines. I am in good health, and I hope these few lines will find you the same. I like my place very well, and I thank you very much for getting me this place. I go to the Orthodox meeting every Sunday, and to Sunday school. Give my love to Mr. Sleeper, and to all the officers.

Yours, M.

Names, Residence, Commission and Retirement of the Trustees of the State Reform School, from its commencement to the present time.

Date of Commission.	Names.	Residence.	Date of Retirement.
1847.	Nahum Fisher, . . .	Westborough, . . .	1849.
1847.	John W. Graves, . . .	Lowell, . . .	1849.
1847.	Samuel Williston, . . .	Easthampton, . . .	1853.
1847.	Thomas A. Greene, . . .	New Bedford, . . .	Still in office.
1847.	Otis Adams, . . .	Grafton, . . .	1851.
1847.	George Denny,* . . .	Westborough, . . .	1851.
1847.	William T. Andrews, . . .	Boston, . . .	1851.
1849.	William Livingston,* . . .	Lowell, . . .	1851.
1849.	Russell A. Gibbs, . . .	Lanesborough, . . .	1853.
1851.	George H. Kuhn, . . .	Boston, . . .	1855.
1851.	J. B. French, . . .	Lowell, . . .	1854.
1851.	Daniel H. Forbes,* . . .	Westborough, . . .	1854.
1851.	Edward B. Bigelow, . . .	Grafton, . . .	1855.
1853.	J. H. W. Paige, . . .	New Bedford, . . .	1856.
1853.	Harvey Dodge, . . .	Sutton, . . .	1857.
1854.	G. Howland Shaw, . . .	Boston, . . .	1856.
1854.	Henry W. Cushman, . . .	Bernardston, . . .	Still in office.
1855.	Albert H. Nelson, . . .	Woburn, . . .	1855.
1855.	John A. Fitch, . . .	Hopkinton, . . .	Still in office.
1855.	Parley Hammond, . . .	Worcester, . . .	Still in office.
1856.	Simon Brown, . . .	Concord, . . .	Still in office.
1856.	John A. Fayerweather, . . .	Westborough, . . .	Still in office.
1857.	J. H. Temple, . . .	Framingham, . . .	Still in office.

Those marked thus (*) are deceased.

OFFICERS.

TRUSTEES.

HENRY W. CUSHMAN.
THOMAS A. GREENE.
JOHN A. FITCH.
PARLEY HAMMOND.

JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.
SIMON BROWN.
JOSIAH H. TEMPLE.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

JOHN A. FITCH, *Chairman*.
SIMON BROWN.

JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

THOMAS A. GREENE.
HENRY W. CUSHMAN.

JOSIAH H. TEMPLE.

SECRETARY.

THOMAS A. GREENE.

TREASURER.

PARLEY HAMMOND.

WILLIAM E. STARR, *Superintendent*.
ORVILLE K. HUTCHINSON, *Asst. Supt.*
THEODORE F. BRIGHAM, *Steward*.
REV. WILLIAM T. SLEEPER, *Chaplain*.

HENRY H. RISING, *Physician*.
Mrs. W. E. STARR, *Matron*.
Mrs. T. F. BRIGHAM, *Asst. Matron*.
Mrs. W. T. SLEEPER, *Teacher of Music*.

TEACHERS.

CHARLES TALCOTT.
DANIEL SULLIVAN.
HENRY TALCOTT.
J. G. LEAVITT.

DESIRE H. BRADFORD.
EUNICE E. MORSE.
SOPHRONIA C. KEYES.
SOPHRONIA M. BROWN.

OVERSEERS OF WORKSHOPS.

ERASTUS C. LOUD.
FREDERICK MORRISON.
ANTHONY DOUGHERTY.
DWIGHT PAIGE.

MALINDA PALMER.
KATE E. COWLES.
JANE M. BROWN.
HENRY A. COBB, *Overseer Third Dep't.*

JOHN BURNS, *Baker*.
MARIA L. MORRISON, *Overseer of
Dining-rooms*.

EBER O. BAILEY, *Carp'r and Eng'r*.
Mrs. E. O. BAILEY, *Nurse*.
Mrs. D. PAIGE, *Laundress*.

OVERSEERS OF DOMESTIC DEPARTMENTS.

HENRY A. COBB.

HENRY A. ALLEN.

WATCHMEN.

WILLIAM H. PAIGE.

GEORGE W. HODGKINS.

ANDREW MORRISON, *Man of all Work*.

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

STATE REFORM SCHOOL,

AT WESTBOROUGH:

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOSTON:

WILLIAM WHITE, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1858.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

In compliance with chapter 40 of the Acts of 1857, the Trustees of the State Reform School herewith respectfully submit to the Governor and the Executive Council, the Twelfth Annual Report of the condition of the institution for the year ending September 30, 1858.

The Reform School has become one of the permanent institutions of the Commonwealth—permanent as the centre and dispenser of beneficial influences, and permanent in the cherished regards of the wise and philanthropic of the people. They have watched it, anxiously, yet hopefully in its infancy—when it was an experiment; they have seen it developing step by step its own distinctive character, and proving its fitness for the work it undertook. They now see it a success—with its tried and established principles of management; and its certainty of benefiting, and almost certainty of reforming those who, at a proper age, are sent to it. It is worthy a permanent place in the regards of the philanthropist.

And as it has passed through its various stages of *experiment*, the Board deem it but just to themselves, and due to the government and people of the State, to review, briefly of course, the history of the institution—for the twelve years of its exist-

ence have sufficed to give it a history—and state some of the leading facts and principles which experience has evolved, touching its true sphere, and the means of its successful working.

And the first thought that occurs is, the striking contrast between the original conception of the school, and the present reality.

The commissioners first appointed were directed to take the preliminary steps to establish a “State Manual Labor School,” with the understanding that it was to be of capacity sufficient to accommodate *one hundred boys*. And in the execution of their trust, impressed doubtless with the intrinsic importance of the institution, as the plan of it worked itself out in their minds, to provide for any possible future contingency, they laid foundations broad enough for three hundred; though they only completed and furnished room for the reception of one hundred and fifty.

But in the comparatively brief space of twelve years, enlarging as the necessity compelled, these limited provisions have increased, till now there are ample accommodations for five hundred and fifty boys, and an average actual attendance during the year of five hundred and ninety. And but for the exertions of the Trustees and Superintendent to find homes among the people for the deserving and more advanced in reformation, this number would have been swelled to seven hundred, perhaps even to the utmost limit to which the Trustees would consent to receive inmates.

It is a sad reflection, that in this Commonwealth, where such ample provision is made for the education and the religious instruction of all the children; and where is so fully developed the restraining, refining influence of stable, cultivated, good society, there are found so many *fit subjects* for discipline and reform! Yet it is cause for gratulation that with the necessity, a means so effectual exists, for the restraint, and moral, intellectual, and physical culture of so large a number.

And we would take this occasion to remind the government and people of the Commonwealth, of their large indebtedness for this noble means of a most noble work to the wise forethought, and generous liberality, and sincere philanthropy of the late THEODORE LYMAN, who passed away too soon to see the

good he had done ; and whose memorial, and honor, is the institution he founded. The State may congratulate herself that she has such sons, the legitimate product of her enlightened Christian institutions, to honor themselves and doubly honor her, in suggesting and taking the lead in the path of virtue and true prosperity. And she may be justly proud of her own agency in carrying to completeness the design thus originated. The people, through the legislature, readily responded to the call of humanity ; and the extensive grounds, the tasteful, commodious buildings, and liberal annual appropriations, attest the high value set upon, and the unabated interest taken in the enterprise. And this appreciation and continued interest, as well as the intrinsic merit of the institution, constitute the assurance of its future prosperity.

The inquiry then is naturally suggested, and is one which should interest every citizen,—Do the results realized justify the expectations of its founders, and the liberal appropriations required for its support ?

To most minds, probably, the estimate on which the answer depends, involves two elements—first, a pecuniary consideration ; second, the moral and social results secured. But as in estimating character, and life, and society, with their associated elements and ends, pecuniary gain is in its nature subsidiary ; and as character and influence form the basis of the productive power of the State, awakening and directing its industry, and measuring the value of the fruits of that industry, the Board believe the second point the more material, and demanding the primary consideration. Though it is confidently believed that by separating the pecuniary from the moral, as far as a separation is possible, and taking the former by itself, it can be satisfactorily shown that the Commonwealth has made no more productive and safer investment than the money expended for her Schools of Juvenile Reform ; and that the large annual appropriation required for their support is really and surely lessening the burdens of taxation. For crime and pauperism go hand in hand ; and the expense of both is a burden on the State. It may cost more dollars and cents to reform a boy, and add his power and industry to the productive labor of the State, than it costs to confine the man, a criminal, in the dungeon, and to hang him on the gallows. But the boy is *worth*

more, when made a *good man*, than the adult criminal is, alive or dead. The former has a lifetime to devote to the welfare of society and the increase of its wealth; the latter has devoted the vigor of his lifetime to spoiling society and destroying its wealth. And there must be added to this loss, the cost of his punishment, whatever it be. The necessary subtraction and addition are easy to be performed.

But reversing the order of the solution, and getting at the pecuniary gain or loss, by a direct estimate of the moral results secured, brings us, only the more strikingly, to the same conclusion. Assuming for the time that only fifty per cent. of the boys are thoroughly reformed—though this is a lower per cent. than the facts warrant—here are in all nine hundred boys, or a present annual average of something more than one hundred and fifty boys, taken from the haunts of temptation and crime, where they were preying on society, and provided with a *home*, perhaps the first they ever had; initiated into the fact that they have a life kindred to other lives about them; taught, for the first time that they have hearts and minds susceptible of happiness and development; educated in the various branches of knowledge which open the world of thought, and fact, and philosophy to the youthful view; instructed in the knowledge of God, whose name they only know to profane it, and into a discernment of right and wrong, and shown the path of true joy and the real end of existence; brought to feel the necessity and inducted into habits of industry; disciplined to recognize the sacredness of authority and law; and thus fitted for and sent into society, not with the mark of the criminal, but with the seal of manhood on their brow, to help develop its resources and gather its varied treasures. *What are these nine hundred young men worth?* What loss to society would have accrued had they been left where they were found? And what gain will they add to its productive power and available means?

This aspect of the usefulness of our institution is not here presented as a new one; it has been set forth in previous reports, and often reproduced. Nor is it believed that the thoughtful and philanthropic of our citizens need any such mode of reasoning to convince their understandings of the inestimable value of the work here done, and enlist their warmest sympathies. But it is feared that in this age of “retrench-

ment" too little weight may be given to the real worth of "reform." In other words, by taking a superficial view only, the true character and province of the school may be misjudged; and the inquirer, while sincerely desirous to arrive at a right conclusion, may reach a false estimate for want of the proper data.

Indeed, in forming an estimate of the expenditures proper for carrying forward the institution, and judging of its real usefulness, as well as in seeking the true principles of its management, the fact must never be lost sight of, that the prime object of the school is the reformation of the boy, and not his punishment. It is to transform him from a depredator on society into a producer. It is to prevent him from becoming a criminal, and to make him a man.

If the prime design of the institution was *punishment*, the system could be materially simplified. Boys can be made to occupy a small space, and can be fed on hard fare. A ball and chain would cost less than an overseer. Solitary confinement is less expensive than a shaded gymnasium and airy workshops. More cells may be built, and a part of the officers dismissed. More rods may be used, and fewer teachers required, and those of an inferior grade, provided they have physical strength. The expenses can be materially reduced. But will it pay? Can the State afford to adopt this cheap system? Will there be a gain, a true, substantial gain, to punish these boys for vices which, to a great extent, are in a sense hereditary,—for crimes committed where the temptation to crime was strong, and the inducement to virtue weak, and thus at best only separate them from society? In a word, shall they be transformed into men, and adorned and strengthened with the beauty and vigor of manliness? or shall they be treated as criminals and orphans till they attain their majority, and then sent forth with the brand on their brow, and hatred burning in their hearts? The question furnishes its own answer.

And as the true province of the school is reformation, it hardly need be said that the younger the boy when committed, the greater the probability of his complete reform. He is more susceptible to good influences, more readily yields to wholesome restraint, and habits of vice are not so deeply rooted.

And for the same reason, a long sentence is more effectual than a short one. Where a boy is committed for a few months only, he looks upon his restraint as a punishment, and judges all the duties required of him as elements of this punishment, and of course, submits of necessity, and not of choice. And of course he derives little benefit. Experience conclusively shows that a sentence covering the period of minority, is the most effectual. Indeed, it deserves the serious consideration of the magistrates intrusted with the trial of juvenile delinquents, whether sentences to our institution should not be limited to that class of cases which need guardianship as well as restraint and discipline, and for first offences. It is a question with the Board whether, after two or three arrests and convictions, and especially when the boy is advanced to fourteen years of age, he is a fit subject for our school; whether the probabilities of his reform are not so small, and his influence on the younger and less vicious boys is not so deleterious, as to properly exclude him from the institution. An important part of our work is to supply the place of a parent to the boy, so far as that place can be supplied. And for this purpose, a commitment during minority is certainly desirable, if not essential.

The Board would not be understood to advocate the necessity of keeping a boy confined in the institution till he is twenty-one. Our settled opinion is, and our practise conforms to our opinion, that as soon as his habits and character will warrant, he should be apprenticed to a good master, and find a congenial place in the good homes scattered over the State.

The end to be sought, viz., the reformation of the boy, also determines the true principles of discipline and management.

A thing of prime necessity—preliminary to special effort—is to bring the boy to feel the sacredness and force of authority. An internal system must be adopted, so adjusted and complete, that everywhere and always, the acknowledgment of right, and the yielding of ready and full obedience are secured. And the perfection of the system lies in securing obedience to authority without a show of authority, and without coercion. The boy committed his offence in defiance of law, and probably was led to do it by earlier unpunished defiance of parental authority. And no sure reformation can be effected without this subjection of will to right control. Indeed, this neglect of restraint, this

unconquered will, following depraved inclination, creates the demand for our institution.

And when respect for authority is secured, then comes in the power of kindness, to inspire hearty obedience. This is the direct avenue to the better nature of the child. This awakens sympathy,—this leads him to feel that he is part and parcel of humanity, and not the antagonist to society which he has hitherto made himself. Instances are not rare, of boys sentenced to our school, as dangerous to society, disobedient, truant, revengeful, false, profane; who, as soon as they discover in the Superintendent and his associates a true parental interest, evince a transformation of disposition and aim, as pleasing as it is entire. A spring in their souls, till now pent up, is opened, and the pure waters of generous sentiment, love, gratitude and obedience, gush forth.

And now comes in a third means of reformation, viz., the enlightenment of the conscience; teaching the distinctions of right and wrong, and the obligation to do the right growing out of man's relation to God; and cultivating to quickness this discernment of right and the purpose of right, by religious instruction. And perhaps example here is as essential as instruction. A steady, cheerful tone of true piety, such as is derived from the study of holy Scripture, and the daily communion of the heart with the great Searcher of hearts, has a powerful influence on the susceptible mind of a child. Such a presence moves, inspires, attracts, and compels. It presents to the boy in an intelligible shape, a form which he can appreciate and measure, the results of the principles inculcated on him. It reaches at a single effort the feelings, and the judgment, and the will, and inspires faith and hope by both the possibility and desirableness of himself reaching the same result.

The Trustees hardly need to intimate in this connection, the vital importance of the chaplain's office and work, in the daily discipline of the institution. Perhaps his daily intercourse with the boys, and the morning and evening devotional exercises are not less an essential agency than the Sabbath services of the chapel.

And the additional suggestion is almost superfluous, that no officer or teacher can succeed here without the possession of high and varied qualifications. This difficult and delicate work

needs skilful and devoted laborers. A mind carefully cultivated ; a love for the work ; habitual self-respect and self-control ; a genial, hopeful disposition ; quick discernment of character ; dignity of bearing ; and a heart imbued with Christian principles, can only fit one for the work undertaken by this institution. And that the compensation should correspond with the qualifications required, is an axiom in business. To secure the services of the few, who possess these natural and acquired qualities generous salaries are and must be paid.

A fourth means to be relied on for reformation, is *constant employment*. The old couplet hath truth, if not poetry,—

“ Satan finds some mischief still
For idle hands to do.”

Labor, to employ the hands, and busy the mind, and awaken ingenuity, and produce results, is a demand of our constitution ; is needful to the maintenance of virtue ; and surely is needful to the recovery of the dissolute and vicious. Without this, the other means of discipline would fail, or would only half complete their work. The health of both body and mind is dependent on the purpose and the exertion of labor. And the habit of industry, nurtured and strengthened by years of trial in our institution, will not only be a safeguard to the youth when he goes forth from us, but will be his assurance of independence and position in his after life.

Many of the boys are employed in the lighter trades, as shoe-making and chair-seating, and with good results. But labor upon the farm and in the garden is undoubtedly better suited to health and discipline. There is a cleansing, healing effect received from breathing the pure air, and basking in the unobstructed sunlight. An inspiring and ennobling influence attends life out of doors, with nature ; seeing her work, and helping her in her annual processes. And the bodily vigor secured is promotive of sound reform and true happiness.

During the past summer, in pleasant weather, the boys had two hours per day added to their out-door work, and of course the same time deducted from the usual study hours, and with happy results. And it is a source of regret to the Trustees, and a serious drawback to success, that the small garden grounds left in our control when the farm was transferred to the care of

the Board of Agriculture, allow of the employment of such a limited number of boys. We have supplied the deficiency as well as might be, by engaging in a series of special improvements on the grounds immediately adjoining the institution.

And in addition to these direct means of reform, the Trustees believe it wise to hold out the hope of an early discharge as the reward of fidelity and good character. They also find a powerful motive in the assurance given to boys, that good situations will be found for them as apprentices, when their good conduct and character will warrant. These motives are delicate implements to handle, and need great caution and wisdom on the part of the Superintendent. Reform is sometimes successfully simulated for months, to secure a discharge by apprenticeship, with the purpose of returning to evil ways. But the cases are rare. A long period of probation, not less than an entire year, is required before a boy is regarded as thoroughly fixed in correct habits, and worthy to be trusted with his entire or partial liberty.

To know that his release before the expiration of sentence, especially where that sentence is during minority, depends on himself, will awaken and call into vigorous exercise whatever is excellent in the boy. It stimulates self-watchfulness; it impresses on his mind the value of fidelity to trust; it shows him how character is valued by good men, whose good opinion he is striving to secure. And thus by giving a steady aim to his thoughts and purposes, and accustoming himself to weigh his own actions, he acquires a fixed character; he finds himself worthy of respect; he finds himself confided in; he respects and confides in himself.

During the past year one hundred and two boys have been discharged as reformed, and one hundred and eighty-eight have been apprenticed to various trades and to farmers.

Mr. Sleeper, and other friends and officers of the school were employed four or five weeks in visiting different portions of the State, to look up suitable homes for the boys. For we regard it as important that the master shall be a good man when he takes the boy, as that the boy shall be fit for a good place. Probably it will be deemed wise to incur a larger expense of time and funds in future, to seek out proper homes for our boys among the farmers and mechanics in the more remote parts of the

State, where the temptations are less, and the boy is more sure to find correct appreciation.

From the consideration of these lessons of experience, and the general purposes and management of the institution, the Trustees turn to a brief review of the past year's work, and statement of the present condition of the school.

The number of boys committed during the year was 271 ; the greatest number at any one time was 639 ; the average number for the year was 590. The number discharged in different ways was 369 ; expiration of sentence, 36 ; apprenticed, 188 ; reformed, 102 ; eloped and died, 17 ; leaving in the institution September 30th, 557. This is a larger aggregate, and a larger average than has been in attendance in any previous year, notwithstanding the success in apprenticing boys ; and is larger than can be suitably accommodated in the institution.

The general conduct of the inmates during the year has been good. A less number has been reported to the Superintendent as delinquent, and a steady purpose to observe the rules of the school has prevailed. The average number in the *Third Department*, has been three. From May to September, a period of four months, this department was vacant.

The encouraging feature of the good order that has prevailed is, that it is spontaneous and not forced. A high tone of feeling, a public sentiment to sustain authority and frown upon disorder, and general harmony have characterized the daily bearing of the boys—ripening, as the Trustees hope and believe, into a healthy sense of honor, which is a fruit of real reform.

The influence of the Third Department, established two years since, is found to be salutary, boys seldom needing a second commitment to it ; and this has contributed to secure the general good conduct. The general harmony of sentiment and purpose among the teachers and officers of the school, so promotive of real efficiency in every department, has communicated itself to the boys, and has its share in securing the above result. But the Trustees believe, and take this occasion to express the belief, that the present good order and prosperity of the school are primarily due to the capacity, and skill, and devoted efforts of the Superintendent and Matron, aided so efficiently by the Assistant-Superintendent and Chaplain.

The semi-monthly visitation, by one or more of the Board of Trustees, has been faithfully continued during the year. Reports in writing of the results of these visits are entered in a book kept for that purpose, and are read at each quarterly meeting of the Board. This arrangement is unquestionably a most beneficial one; insuring a careful supervision, and the deliberate opinion of each member of the Board of the defects and the improvements of the institution.

HEALTH.—The number of deaths during the year was seven. This is one more than last year, and is considerably above the yearly average, though perhaps not a larger increase than the ratio of increase of inmates. About half of these occurred in the spring and early summer, the direct or remoter result of measles, which prevailed generally in the institution in April and May. It is, however, cause for gratitude to a merciful Guardian, that out of ninety-nine cases, some of them of great severity, so large a proportion recovered.

SCHOOLS.—The schools are arranged in four grades in each department, (the old and the new,) making eight in all, each grade having a separate room and its own teacher. The average number in each room is about seventy. There are two sessions a day, of two hours each, making four hours a day devoted to study and recitation. Boys on their admission to the institution are examined, and put in the grade where their attainments allow.

It has been the policy of the Board to employ the best teachers they could procure, and this is believed to be the only good policy. A thorough semi-annual examination, in January and July, of all the schools was made by the committee of the Board appointed at its annual meeting, occupying two days at each time; and full reports of these examinations were made to the Board, and are entered on its records. Less thorough examinations are made by the individual members of the committee and of the Board at the semi-monthly visits. Scholars are found in our schools in both common and higher English branches, who will compare favorably with the pupils in the high schools in our larger towns.

In addition to their proper school duties, the teachers are required to oversee the boys in the yards during hours of recreation, and to take charge of them in part, during their out-door and in-door labors, acting thus in the double capacity of teacher and overseer. And on the Sabbath, when the boys are kept within the limits of the building and yards, the teachers have charge of them in their respective school rooms, except during chapel hours.

The relation of the teacher, then, to his or her class, is very intimate. They come in more constant personal contact with the boys even, than the Superintendent. They can do a most important part of the work of reformation, not only by awakening the mental activity, and imparting knowledge, and correcting and forming habits, but by drawing out the latent principles, and sympathies, and biases, and giving them proper direction; by inspiring confidence and hope, and giving daily examples of the discipline of authority and love. Possibly a less number—possibly one-half the number, can do the work of *teaching*; but this is not half the work we require of the teachers. It is not half the work they actually do. And their daily personal influence over the boys is an essential element in our system of reform.

THE LIBRARY.—During the year the library has been removed from its secluded place, and arranged in a convenient, accessible room. Number of volumes added the past year, 130. Total number of volumes in the library, 1,350. The Trustees discovered a delinquency on the part of some of the teachers, arising from a mistaken notion of their duty, in distributing these books to the boys as frequently as they desired them, and as the rules required. This evil has been corrected. The books are eagerly sought for by a majority of the boys, and are an important means of amusement and instruction.

STEWARD'S DEPARTMENT.—The complicated duties of the Superintendent, as originally defined, and as satisfactorily performed when the school was small,—comprising the general oversight as well as the minute details of all the departments of the institution, the discipline and management of the boys, care of the schools, correspondence, furnishing supplies of clothing,

provisions, fuel, &c.,—became, as the number of inmates increased to five and six hundred, too onerous for one man. And after careful consideration by a committee of the Board, a change was made, by which the superintendence of the schools was added to the Chaplain's duties, and the purchase of supplies, responsibility for their economical use, care of barn, tools, &c., was intrusted to a Steward. The necessity of the office can be inferred from the fact that the amount of his purchases for the year were \$29,000, many of which, as flour, molasses, cloths, must be obtained in Boston, and such articles as beef, potatoes, &c., are procured of farmers within a circuit of several miles.

A trial of three years has satisfied the Board of the wisdom as well as the necessity of this change. All the interests of the institution have been promoted by the division of labor ; and the entire time of each officer is profitably expended in the performance of his specified duties. Mr. and Mrs. Brigham, as Steward and Assistant-Matron, have managed their department with efficiency and economy.

LABOR IN THE SHOPS.—The general depression of business has interfered materially with the productive labor of the boys. This will of course diminish the receipts below the estimate of the Trustees ; and what is of more importance, it has deranged our plans of discipline and employment. With our best endeavors, a part of the smaller boys could not be kept usefully employed in manual labor the whole of the work hours of the day.

The Trustees are convinced that an outlay is necessary to provide the stock and tools of some light mechanical trade, which can be managed by the officers, independent of contracts with outside parties, to be resorted to in emergency.

One shoe shop has been in operation, with sixty boys, for nine months of the year ; the other only four months, with the same number of boys.

In the chair-seating room work has been found for only 16 boys, instead of 111, as last year. A contract is about to be closed with Greenwood & Wright, of South Gardner, for the employment of 125 boys at chair-seating for the coming year.

The total amount received for labor of boys is \$3,456.50 against \$5,610.57, for ten months of last year.

SPECIAL IMPROVEMENTS.—To remedy as far as possible the failure of work in the shops, and keep the boys employed in the open air, several special improvements have been undertaken, and wholly or in part completed, employing more than one hundred boys daily during the summer. These improvements have accomplished the double end of labor, and convenience and ornament.

The triangular lot east of the institution has been levelled and seeded, and shade trees, and a buckthorn hedge planted on the borders. Under the care of the proper overseers this work was tastefully and thoroughly performed.

The unsightly bank still farther to the east and across the road, has been levelled, and the earth carted to the area in front of the buildings, securing utility and beauty in both locations.

The underbrush and superfluous trees in the grove have been cleared away, and what was suitable prepared for fuel. The stones have been dug and carried away for various uses.

The cemetery lot has been laid out and graded, and a receiving tomb built.

The foundation has been laid for an ice house, on the borders of the pond, the old one having become dilapidated, and being too small to meet the necessities of the institution.

And all this labor, with unimportant exceptions, has been performed by the boys, under the supervision of the regular officers of the school.

The amendment to the Act establishing the Reform School, passed by the legislature at its last session, by which the committing magistrate is required to ascertain and state in the mittimus, the age of the boy committed, is believed to be of great practical value, and is working well. It in a measure secures the institution against the reception of boys too old to be benefited by its discipline,—commitments being restricted to sixteen years of age, by the statute,—and it secures the Trustees against the perplexities and losses arising from defective indentures, where the boy's testimony was relied on for the date of his birth.

And could a practicable, efficient law be devised, by which parents who are abundantly able, should be made to pay a share of the expenses of reforming their sons, it would materially reduce the expenditures of the institution, and perhaps quicken some parents to greater exertions to correct in season the stubbornness and truancy of their children.

To meet the ordinary expenses of the ensuing year, we think the sum of \$44,000 will be necessary, viz.:—

For provisions and clothing for 600 boys at \$42, .	\$25,200 00
For salaries, wages, and support of officers, .	12,000 00
For fuel, light, and current expenses, . . .	8,000 00
For repairs and incidental expenses, . . .	3,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$48,200 00
Deduct estimated receipts for boys' labor, .	4,200 00
	<hr/>
	\$44,000 00

For statistical tables of great value, the state of the finances, and more minute information in regard to the individual character of the inmates, as well as valuable suggestions in regard to health, progress, discipline and success, the Board refer to the accompanying reports of the Superintendent, Chaplain, Treasurer, and Physician.

As the Trustees thus review the labors of another year, in the light of its advancing and completed results, they are led to form a higher estimate than ever, of the magnitude and intrinsic value of the work intrusted to this institution. Taking the criterion commonly adopted by similar schools, about seventy-five per cent. of the boys committed to our care are reformed; that is, they leave us with a record of exemplary conduct, with as good an education as the length of their term of service admitted, with grateful acknowledgments for our care, and sincere promises of virtue. Taking a severer test, which the Board are disposed to do,—that is, reckoning as reformed only such as appear to have changed their previous vicious purposes and aims, and become thoroughly imbued with right principles of action, and have proved by months and years of trial the sincerity and strength of their purposes, and the genuineness of their new good character,—not less than sixty

per cent. of those now committed on long sentences leave the institution well prepared to become useful members of society. They are restored to their forfeited position in the State.

Encouraged by this fact, and by the unfailing interest in our work shown by the wise and good of the people, as well as by the intrinsic excellence of the work itself, we enter on a new year determined to use the lessons of the past with profit, hopeful of yet greater and better results, and invoking upon our cherished institution the continued smiles of the God of goodness and love.

PARLEY HAMMOND.
JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.
SIMON BROWN.
THOMAS A. GREEN.
JOSIAH H. TEMPLE.
HENRY W. CUSHMAN.
JUDSON S. BROWN.

WESTBOROUGH, October 8, 1858.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

*To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council of
the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :—*

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents the Twelfth Annual Report.

The Treasurer charges himself from October 1st, 1857, to September 30th, 1858, inclusive, as follows :—

For cash on hand, per last report,	\$1,157 30	
For amount received from the State treasury,	44,000 00	
For amount of two notes received from Comstock, Cole & Co., not due at the date of last report, \$632 80	774 72	
	—————	1,407 52
For amount received for labor of boys,	3,456 50	
For sundries,	2,266 30	
	—————	\$52,287 62

There is now due the institution for the labor of boys the following sums :—

From Benj. E. Cole, two notes, payable as follows :—	
November quarter,	\$363 28
February quarter,	412 88
From A. Davis & Co.,	232 54
	—————
	\$1,008 70

And he credits himself for the following payments:—

Clothing,	\$2,969 50	
Provisions and groceries,	20,135 95	
General improvement and repairs,	2,603 74	
Furniture and bedding,	2,026 27	
Fuel and lights,	4,172 32	
Salaries and wages,	10,924 81	
Leather and tools used in the shoe shop,	1,678 94	
School books and stationery,	523 59	
Transportation,	699 47	
Postage,	23 62	
Hospital expenses,	71 03	
Trustees' expenses,	386 85	
Miscellaneous,	1,362 54	
	<hr/>	
	\$47,578 63	
Cash on hand,	4,708 99	
	<hr/>	
		\$52,287 62

Leather and Tools used in the Shoe Shop, include

Leather, 3,890 pounds,	\$926 93
Leather, 2,619 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet,	437 80
Boot uppers, 96 pairs,	144 00
Lasts, and other tools,	19 51
Pegs, thread, tacks, &c.,	34 76
Lace leather,	13 72
Leather for shoes sold,	102 22
	<hr/>
	\$1,678 94

Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials on general repairs,	\$836 25
Balance of enlarging steam mill,	454 44
Building ice house, in part,	164 54
Repairing kitchen boiler,	23 00
Repairing furnaces,	62 67
Steam pipes and repairing,	48 27
Caldron kettle,	13 50
Repairing cooking range,	34 88

Pump, lead pipe, and repairing,	\$47 56
Repairing slating,	11 61
Paints, oil, and lead,	172 22
Whitewashing and brushes,	124 59
Hooks, for clothing, 54 dozen,	65 00
Belting, \$9.20; rubber packing, \$6.50,	15 70
Locks, keys, door knobs, hinges, &c.	33 66
Carpenters' and blacksmiths' tools,	32 78
Iron Work,	46 07
Ornamental trees,	20 00
Ornamental shrubs, 23,	24 75
Buckthorns, for hedges, 2,500,	37 50
Grading in front of institution,	41 94
Grading cemetery, and building tomb,	62 45
Glass,	21 24
Lumber and labor, in building garden fence,	112 12
Labor and material for front yard fence, 16 rods,	97 00
	<hr/>
	\$2,603 74

Books, Stationery and Printing, include

School books, 410,	\$88 19
Social Psalmist, 240,	45 00
Library books,	75 00
Paper for covering same,	9 54
Duntonian writing books, 120 dozen,	113 62
Writing paper and envelopes,	35 87
Memorandum books,	8 60
Pens, ink, &c.,	25 51
Slates, 22 dozen,	20 04
Youth's Companion, 10 copies, 2 years,	16 60
Daily Journal, 1 year and 3 months,	7 25
Reports of Reformatory Convention,	42 12
Advertising and printing blanks,	16 00
Blank books for History of Boys, 3,	20 25
	<hr/>
	\$523 59

Clothing, includes

Satinets, 1,859½ yards,	\$975 94
Cloth, and clothing for apprentices,	236 81

Suspenders, 15 $\frac{1}{3}$ dozen,	\$20 61
Cotton cloth, 1,905 yards,	155 29
Paris twills, 3,165 yards,	462 48
Cotton flannel, 674 yards,	67 40
Vesting, 303 yards,	43 77
Linen,	3 88
Cambric, 51 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	3 91
Gingham, 121 yards,	14 29
Silesia, 38 yards, \$3.44; jean, 332 yards, \$27.34, .	30 78
Senate hats, 15 dozen,	15 00
Caps, and cloth for same,	61 73
Thread, 73 pounds,	74 71
Frocking, 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	33 48
Scissors, needles, and thimbles,	5 93
Buttons, 17 gross,	17 99
Socks, 128 pairs,	114 00
Boots, 1 pair, \$3; mittens, 17 pairs, \$5.54, . .	8 54
Shoes, 242 pairs,	253 67
Yarn, 429 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	326 47
Handkerchiefs and cravats,	16 32
Combs, 40 gross,	22 08
Sundries,	4 46
	<hr/>
	\$2,969 50

Fuel and Lights include

Coal, 442 $\frac{1}{3}$ tons,	\$3,175 00
Wood, 103 $\frac{3}{8}$ cords,	629 89
Charcoal, 73 bushels,	10 22
Oil, 327 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons,	247 68
Fluid and kerosene, 186 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons,	102 79
Wicks and matches,	6 74
	<hr/>
	\$4,172 32

Provisions and Groceries include

Flour, 966 barrels,	\$6,182 43
Rye meal, 141 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	242 12
Indian meal, 738 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	674 42
Buckwheat, 3 bags,	6 00
Malt, 4 bushels, and yeast,	6 96

Beef, 58,082 pounds,	\$4,427 20
Pork, 5,201 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	468 76
Sausages, 214 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	27 86
Ham, 598 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	72 16
Mutton, 502 pounds,	32 62
Veal, 1,430 pounds,	125 34
Tripe, 265 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	24 09
Fish, 6,530 pounds,	250 92
Poultry, 219 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	26 10
Eggs, 349 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozens,	66 28
Bread, 1,037 loaves,	55 85
Crackers, 21 barrels,	80 50
Rice, 34,581 pounds,	1,236 20
Sugar, 3,924 pounds,	373 95
Coffee, 863 pounds,	126 60
Tea, 160 pounds,	67 60
Chocolate, 1,924 pounds,	412 21
Molasses, 4,279 gallons,	1,135 79
Butter, 2,890 pounds,	623 72
Cheese, 574 pounds,	53 03
Vinegar, 378 gallons,	47 44
Apples, 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ barrels,	159 08
Cider, 45 gallons,	4 50
Lard, 642 pounds,	97 57
Dried apples, 75 pounds,	6 75
Hops, 309 pounds,	18 54
Raisins,	16 63
Nutmegs, 5 pounds, \$3.50 ; Walnuts, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels, \$3,	6 50
Pepper, 100 pounds, \$12.42 ; Alum, 112 pounds, \$4.59,	17 01
Starch, 74 pounds, \$5.18 ; Indigo, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds, \$4.73,	9 91
Ginger, 25 pounds, and other small groceries, .	19 73
Soap, 1,176 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds,	67 22
Potash, 666 pounds,	50 84
Tapioca, 44 pounds, \$7.18 ; Corn starch, \$2.75, .	9 93
Saleratus, 278 pounds, \$14.66 ; Cream tartar, 50 pounds, \$12.68,	27 34
Salt, \$57.17 ; Ice, \$25.02,	82 19

Potatoes, 1,107 bushels,	\$772 63
Beans, 120 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels,	205 82
Peas, 27 bushels,	30 31
Milk, 10,830 gallons,	1,412 65
Strawberries, 148 boxes; raspberries, 44 boxes, .	42 50
Peaches and pears,	30 88
Berries, 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ quarts, \$6.68; Quinces, 1 bushel, \$1,	7 68
Grapes, 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels, \$4.72; Cranberries, 3 bushels, \$6.20,	10 92
Currants, and other fruit from the garden, . .	3 60
Beets, 30 bushels; Carrots, 8 bushels, . . .	16 90
Onions, 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	47 30
Squashes,	10 20
Cabbages, 1,586,	60 13
Cucumbers, asparagus, and other garden vegetables,	19 84
Turnips, 54 bushels,	9 92
Tomatoes, 994 pounds,	14 78
	<hr/>
	\$20,135 95

Furniture and Bedding include

Ticking, 1,190 yards,	\$133 62
Sheeting, 2,680 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	237 09
Crash, 300 yards,	28 93
Jean, 216 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	19 55
Diaper for spreads, 925 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	176 62
Batting, 718 pounds,	74 36
Prints and check, 1,542 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	170 53
Straw for beds, 20,748 pounds,	88 91
Thread, 86 pounds,	24 84
Scissors, 16 pairs, and knitting needles, . .	9 08
Carpeting, 64 yards,	46 83
Mats, 6, \$4.80; Baskets, 11, \$6.87,	11 67
Iron bedsteads, \$10,	50 00
Desk for chapel,	15 25
Table covers, and mats,	4 01
Repairing sofas and chairs,	27 24
Small trunks, 2,	3 50
Tuning melodeon,	2 50
Combs, 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen,	51 63

Pails, 28,	\$14 40
Clothes lines, pins, wash boards and other wooden ware,	20 88
Refrigerator, 1,	13 00
Knives and forks, \$32.58 ; spoons, \$1.90,	34 48
Crockery,	203 20
Glass and earthen ware,	9 35
Tin, britannia, and copper ware,	84 97
Lanterns, 18,	10 75
Lamps,	103 63
Chimneys and shades,	32 81
Brooms, 27 dozen,	63 75
Floor and scrubbing brushes,	43 65
Dusters, 18,	10 50
Stoves, funnel and repairing,	96 95
Portable oven, 1,	56 00
Coal hods and shovels,	9 75
Sundry small articles,	42 04
	<hr/>
	\$2,026 27

Miscellaneous includes

Expenses in pursuing and returning elopers,	\$100 22
Expenses in returning boys to their friends and fitting them out for sea,	94 14
Travelling expenses on business for the institution,	62 62
Expense in obtaining places for boys,	45 65
Expense in sending boys to places,	59 00
Visiting apprentices,	51 00
Expenses in pursuing and returning apprentices who have left their places,	24 25
Conveying Sabbath School teachers to the institution,	150 00
Coffins, pall cloth, and expenses of funerals,	47 36
Repairing wagon, sleigh, and other carriages,	23 06
Whips, and repairing harnesses,	10 96
Grain for horses, 212½ bushels,	196 24
Hay, 5,878 pounds,	34 12
Rakes, 12, \$2.52 ; ladder, 1, \$6:80,	9 32
Blacksmith work,	69 87
Grass and garden seeds,	23 55

Butchering,	\$23 50
Wheelbarrows, 12,	33 00
Garden roller,	14 00
Shovels, 78,	51 50
Iron rakes, 18,	10 50
Pruning knife, shears, and other garden tools, .	21 69
Fire crackers for the 4th of July, 10 boxes, .	17 50
Skates, 8 pairs,	5 20
Heavy weights for hitching horses, 4, . . .	9 60
Oars, 2 pairs,	3 22
Chloride of lime,	7 99
Ploughing garden and grounds near the institution,	9 56
Pasturing cattle,	10 50
Bags,	15 25
Paying Charles B. Moore, an apprentice, damage for error in age,	65 00
Travelling expenses of lecturers,	9 50
Sundries,	53 67
	<hr/>
	\$1,362 54

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the State Reform School.

WESTBOROUGH, Mass., Sept. 30, 1858.

We hereby certify that we have examined the accounts of the Treasurer of the State Reform School, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER, }
T. S. BROWN, } *Auditing Committee.*

WESTBOROUGH, October 9, 1858.

LYMAN FUND.

The principal of this fund is the same it was

September 30, 1857, \$20,000 00

Income on hand Sept. 30, 1857,	. \$1,083 85
--------------------------------	--------------

Jan. 1858.	Received dividend on 53 shares Fitchburg R. R.,	159 00
------------	----------------------------------------------------	--------

Jan. 1858.	Received dividend on 60	
.	shares Boston and Wor-	
	cester, Railroad, . . .	180 00

July 1858.	Received dividend on 53 shares Fitchburg R. R.,	159 00
------------	----------------------------------------------------	--------

July 1858.	Received dividend on 60 shares Boston and Wor- cester Railroad, . . .	180 00
------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------

\$1,761 85

Paid W. J. McPherson for chapel tablets,	150 00
------------------------------------------	--------

Income on hand,	\$1,611 85
-----------------	---	---	---	---	------------

No dividend received on the other stocks since the last report.

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the Lyman Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, September 30, 1858.

M A R Y L A M B F U N D .

The principal of this fund is the same as stated in		
the last report, September 30, 1857,	. . .	\$1,000 00
Income on hand September 30, 1857,	. . .	\$25 51
August 11. Received interest to date,	. . .	60 00
		<hr/>
Amount of income on hand,	. . . .	\$85 51

The fund is loaned to the city of Worcester.

P. HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the Mary Lamb Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, September 30, 1858.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School:

The Superintendent presents the following as his Twelfth Annual Report.

TABLE No. 1,

Showing the number received and discharged, and the general condition of the School for the year ending September 30, 1858.

Boys in School October 1, 1857,	613
since committed,	271
Apprentices returned by masters,	31
arrested and returned, having left his master,	1
returned voluntarily, having left their masters,	9
Eloper, arrested and returned,	1
Whole number in School during the year,	926
Boys discharged or apprenticed,	326
remanded to alternative sentence,	22
Court of Common Pleas, on writ of <i>habeas corpus</i> ,	1
returned to masters,	3
escaped,	10
died,	7
Remaining in School September 30, 1858,	557

TABLE No. 2,

Showing the Commitments from the several Counties during the past year, and previously.

COUNTIES.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable,	5	9	14
Berkshire,	13	79	92
Bristol,	27	210	237
Dukes,	2	2	4
Essex,	37	422	459
Franklin,	2	14	16
Hampden,	21	129	150
Hampshire,	9	30	39
Middlesex,	52	370	422
Nantucket,	1	14	15
Norfolk,	29	191	220
Plymouth,	9	24	33
Suffolk,	34	427	461
Worcester,	30	217	247
Totals,	271	2,138	2,409

TABLE No. 3,

Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and average number for each month of the year.

MONTHS.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Average No
October, 1857,	34	22	617
November,	24	14	629.7
December,	21	38	625.6
January, 1858,	17	12	618.7
February,	25	16	628.8
March,	28	35	629.1
April,	20	78	587.5
May,	25	38	561.9
June,	18	37	543.3
July,	35	33	531
August,	37	14	547.3
September,	29	32	558
Totals,	313	369	589.8

TABLE No. 4,

Showing the disposal of those discharged the past year, and previously.

DISPOSAL.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
Discharged by Board of Trustees, . .	102	382	484
on expiration of sentence, . .	36	174	210
Remanded to alternative sentence, . .	22	76	98
Returned to masters,	3	13	16
Discharged by order of Court,	1	8	9
Escaped,	10	15	25
Died,	7	31	38
Indented to Bakers,	1	8	9
Barbers,	2	18	20
Blacksmiths,	3	11	14
Boiler-makers,	—	2	2
Bookbinders,	—	1	1
Boot and Shoemakers,	60	352	412
Brass Founders,	—	2	2
Butchers,	1	2	3
Cabinet-makers,	2	6	8
Calico Printers,	—	1	1
Carpenters,	6	42	48
Caterers,	—	1	1
Cigar-makers,	—	1	1
Clerks,	—	9	9
Clergymen,	—	1	1
Comb-makers,	—	4	4
Coopers,	—	8	8
Cotton Manufacturers,	1	6	7
Daguerreotypists,	—	1	1
Engineers,	—	1	1
Engravers,	—	1	1
Farmers and Gardeners, . . .	61	319	380
Farmers and Shoemakers, . . .	4	32	36
File-makers,	—	1	1
Fresco Cleaners,	—	1	1
Harness-makers,	—	5	5
Jewellers,	—	2	2
Japanners,	—	1	1
Lumber Dealers,	—	1	1
Machinists,	1	14	15
Mahogany Chair-makers, . . .	—	2	2
Marble Workers,	—	3	3
Masons,	4	13	17
Merchants,	1	3	4
Millers,	—	1	1
Moulders,	1	5	6
Musical Instrument makers, . .	—	1	1
Painters,	2	15	17
Paper Hangers,	—	1	1

TABLE No. 4—Continued.

DISPOSAL.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
Indented to Piano-forte Makers, . . .	—	1	1
Plumbers,	—	1	1
Pocket-book Makers,	—	1	1
Pump and Block Makers,	—	1	1
Printers,	1	4	5
Riggers,	—	1	1
Ropemakers,	—	1	1
Sailmakers,	—	3	3
Sawmakers,	—	1	1
School, to attend,	21	59	80
Sea Captains,	—	11	11
Ship Carp'ter and Boatbuilders,	1	5	6
Shoe Tool Makers,	—	3	3
Silver Platers,	—	6	6
Sleigh-makers,	—	1	1
Stonecutters,	4	3	7
Tack Makers,	—	1	1
Tailors,	4	16	20
Tanners and Curriers,	1	13	14
Tin and Sheet Iron Workers,	1	3	4
Trunk Makers,	—	3	3
Veneer Sawyers,	—	1	1
Wheelwrights,	2	9	11
Wireworkers,	—	1	1
Wood Turners,	—	2	2
Woolen Weavers,	2	1	3
Broom Maker,	1	—	1
Totals,	369	1,749	2,118

TABLE No. 5,

Showing the length of time the boys had been in the Institution, who left during the past year, and also during the preceding three years and ten months.

TIME.					Past year.	Preceding 3 5-6 years.	Total.
In School	less than 1 month,	.	.	.	3	5	8
In School	1 month,	.	.	.	1	11	12
	2 months,	.	.	.	1	18	19
	3 "	.	.	.	3	14	17
	4 "	.	.	.	7	15	22
	5 "	.	.	.	9	15	24
	6 "	.	.	.	13	22	35
	7 "	.	.	.	4	15	19
	8 "	.	.	.	9	18	27
	9 "	.	.	.	8	19	27
	10 "	.	.	.	8	28	36
	11 "	.	.	.	12	29	41
	12 "	.	.	.	13	108	121
	13 "	.	.	.	14	40	54
	14 "	.	.	.	10	39	49
	15 "	.	.	.	15	33	48
	16 "	.	.	.	5	32	37
	17 "	.	.	.	14	38	52
	18 "	.	.	.	12	35	47
	19 "	.	.	.	10	29	39
	20 "	.	.	.	6	31	37
	21 "	.	.	.	6	24	30
	22 "	.	.	.	9	37	46
	23 "	.	.	.	4	29	33
	24 "	.	.	.	21	62	83
	25 "	.	.	.	6	30	36
	26 "	.	.	.	13	24	37
	27 "	.	.	.	7	25	32
	28 "	.	.	.	8	17	25
	29 "	.	.	.	4	9	13
	30 "	.	.	.	9	23	32
	31 "	.	.	.	7	14	21
	32 "	.	.	.	4	17	21
	33 "	.	.	.	5	12	17
	34 "	.	.	.	5	15	20
	35 "	.	.	.	4	6	10
	36 "	.	.	.	19	25	44
	37 "	.	.	.	2	10	12
	38 "	.	.	.	4	9	13
	39 "	.	.	.	2	6	8
	40 "	.	.	.	2	10	12
	41 "	.	.	.	9	11	20
	42 "	.	.	.	2	5	7
	43 "	.	.	.	1	3	4
	44 "	.	.	.	1	6	7

TABLE No. 5—Continued.

TIME.					Past year.	Preceding 3 5-6 years.	Total.
In School 45 months,	.	.	.	.	3	3	6
46 "	.	.	.	.	5	7	12
47 "	.	.	.	.	2	6	8
48 "	.	.	.	.	2	4	6
49 "	.	.	.	.	3	3	6
50 "	.	.	.	.	2	3	5
51 "	.	.	.	.	2	5	7
52 "	.	.	.	.	1	3	4
53 "	.	.	.	.	—	2	2
54 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
55 "	.	.	.	.	2	3	5
56 "	.	.	.	.	2	1	3
57 "	.	.	.	.	1	2	3
58 "	.	.	.	.	1	1	2
59 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
60 "	.	.	.	.	1	3	4
61 "	.	.	.	.	1	1	2
62 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
63 "	.	.	.	.	1	2	3
64 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
65 "	.	.	.	.	1	2	3
66 "	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
67 "	.	.	.	.	1	1	2
68 "	.	.	.	.	—	—	—
69 "	.	.	.	.	1	1	2
70 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
72 "	.	.	.	.	2	3	5
73 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
79 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
86 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
90 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
92 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
Totals,	.	.	.	.	369	1,088	1,457

Average for the past year, 24 months.

TABLE No. 6,

Showing by what authority the Commitments have been made during the past year, and previously.

COMMITTED.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas, . . .	9	108	117
Boston Municipal Court, . . .	19	157	176
Boston Police " . . .	5	243	248
Adams " " . . .	3	3	6
Blackstone " " . . .	—	1	1
Cambridge " " . . .	2	16	18
Chelsea " " . . .	6	9	15
Chicopee " " . . .	9	10	19
Fall River " " . . .	10	71	81
Haverhill " " . . .	—	5	5
Lawrence " " . . .	10	92	102
Lee " " . . .	—	5	5
Lowell " " . . .	2	75	77
Lynn " " . . .	8	42	50
Milford " " . . .	—	3	3
New Bedford " " . . .	4	61	65
Newburyport " " . . .	3	68	71
Pittsfield " " . . .	4	41	45
Roxbury " " . . .	6	32	38
Salem " " . . .	9	126	135
Springfield " " . . .	4	38	42
Taunton " " . . .	2	15	17
Williamstown " " . . .	1	3	4
Worcester " " . . .	6	99	105
Gloucester " " . . .	1	—	1
Justices of the Peace, . . .	148	815	963
Totals, . . .	271	2,138	2,409

TABLE No. 7,

*Showing the Offences of those committed during the past year,
and previously.*

OFFENCES.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
Accessory to larceny,	—	2	2
Arson,	1	3	4
Assault,	2	11	13
Assault and battery,	4	16	20
Attempt to burn a building,	—	2	2
Attempt at larceny,	1	1	2
Attempt to pass counterfeit money,	—	1	1
Attempt to commit rape,	—	1	1
Attempt at robbery,	—	1	1
Barnburning,	—	1	1
Breaking and entering with intent to steal,	11	28	39
Burning a building,	—	2	2
Common drunkard,	—	12	12
Concealing stolen goods,	—	1	1
Burglary,	1	9	10
Disturbing a school,	1	1	2
Giving spirits to persons under arrest,	—	1	1
Having obscene books and prints for cir- culation,	—	2	2
Housebreaking,	—	12	12
Forgery,	—	4	4
Idle and disorderly,	14	93	107
Larceny,	106	722	828
Malicious mischief,	10	47	57
No offence mentioned,	—	1	1
Pilfering,	—	13	13
Quarreling and profanity,	—	1	1
Robbery from persons,	—	4	4
Runaway,	1	21	22
" and stealing,	2	32	34
" with intent to steal,	—	26	26
Stubbornness,	99	929	1,028
Selling intoxicating liquors,	—	1	1
Trespass,	—	11	11
Vagrancy,	17	126	143
Disturbing the peace,	1	—	1
Totals,	271	2,138	2,409

TABLE No. 8,

Showing the length of Sentences the past year, and previously.

SENTENCED.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	172	1,524	1,696
Until 20 years old,	—	5	5
19 “ “	—	1	1
18 “ “	4	11	15
17 “ “	—	5	5
16 “ “	2	1	3
15 “ “	—	1	1
14 “ “	—	2	2
For one year,	18	110	128
one year and four months,	—	1	1
one year and six months,	—	5	5
two years,	21	132	153
two years and six months,	1	4	5
two years and eight months,	—	2	2
two years, nine months, and eight days,	—	1	1
two years and ten months,	—	2	2
three years,	22	140	162
three years and six months,	—	1	1
three years and eight months,	—	2	2
four years,	11	77	88
four years and six months,	—	1	1
five years,	11	65	76
six “	7	27	34
seven “	—	5	5
eight “	1	8	9
nine “	—	1	1
ten, “	—	4	4
six years and seven months,	1	—	1
Totals,	271	2,138	2,409

TABLE No. 9,
Showing the length of Alternative Sentences.

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCE.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	3	20	23
For seven years,	—	2	2
six years,	—	1	1
five years and three months,	—	1	1
five years,	1	5	6
four years,	—	11	11
three years and six months,	—	1	1
three years,	7	25	32
two years, nine months, and eight days,	—	1	1
two years and six months,	1	7	8
two years,	5	73	78
one year and six months,	6	20	26
one year and three months,	2	19	21
one year,	13	94	107
ten months,	—	3	3
nine “	—	5	5
eight “	—	7	7
six “	100	583	683
five “	1	16	17
four “	6	50	56
three “	40	317	357
two “	30	396	426
forty days,	—	1	1
one month,	44	364	408
less than one month,	12	115	127
unexpired portion of sentence,	—	1	1
Totals,	271	2,138	2,409

TABLE No. 10,

Showing the Nativity of those committed the past year, and previously.

NATIVITY.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
Born in Canada,	3	22	25
England,	6	46	52
France,	—	1	1
Germany,	—	1	1
Ireland,	51	275	326
Italy,	—	2	2
New Brunswick,	—	50	50
Newfoundland,	1	3	4
Nova Scotia,	2	32	34
Prince Edward Island,	1	—	1
Scotland,	1	8	9
West Indies,	—	2	2
Foreigners,	65	442	507
Born in Connecticut,	9	31	40
District of Columbia,	—	2	2
Georgia,	—	1	1
Illinois,	2	3	5
Louisiana,	1	2	3
Maine,	7	77	84
Maryland,	—	4	4
Massachusetts,	161	1,344	1,505
New Hampshire,	9	59	68
New Jersey,	—	7	7
New York,	9	93	102
Ohio,	—	1	1
Pennsylvania,	4	7	11
Rhode Island,	1	26	27
Vermont,	2	33	35
Virginia,	1	6	7
Natives,	206	1,696	1,902
Foreigners,		507	
Natives,		1,902	
Total,		2,409	

Of the 1,902 born in the United States, 1,304 are of American parentage, 489 Irish, 64 English, 16 French, 16 Scotch, 9 German, 1 Danish, 1 Spanish, 1 Swedish, 1 African.

TABLE No. 11,
Showing the Ages of boys when committed.

AGE.	Past year.	Previously.	Total.
Six years,	—	4	4
Seven years,	—	18	18
Eight years,	4	57	61
Nine years,	12	115	127
Ten years,	14	199	213
Eleven years,	23	238	261
Twelve years,	47	270	317
Thirteen years,	35	329	364
Fourteen years,	47	358	405
Fifteen years,	72	415	487
Sixteen years,	12	89	101
Seventeen years,	5	34	39
Unknown,	—	12	12
Totals,	271	2,138	2,409
Average of past year,			$13\frac{1}{6}$
Total average,			$12\frac{3}{4}$

The average age of the boys committed during the past year, is greater than ever heretofore; and when we consider the motives inducing parties to under-state the age in connection with the law requiring magistrates to ascertain and insert it in the mittimus, it seems probable that the true average is greater than appears in the above table. Still, it may be, we ascertain the ages more accurately than heretofore.

TABLE No. 12,

Showing the average employment of the boys during the year.

Employed by contractors, making shoes,	67.5
in making and repairing shoes for boys,	6
seating chairs,	16
stitching boots,	7.5
by Board of Agriculture, on the farm,	51
in domestic work,	45
baking and cooking,	13.5
care of dining-rooms,	12
sewing and knitting,	145.5
the laundry,	35
gardening,	6
improving the cemetery,	3.5
grove,	10
grading in front of the institution,	16.5
subsoiling in the Warren lot,	3.5
construction of ice-house,	1.5
miscellaneous work,	9.5
Without employment,	129
Confined to the Hospital,	8.3
in the third department,	3
Total,	589.8

It will be seen by the above table, that a portion of the boys are employed at the various kinds of necessary work of the house. Indeed, they do all the baking, cooking, washing, ironing, tailoring, shoemaking, knitting, domestic and miscellaneous work of the house.

SHOE DEPARTMENT.

In the beginning of the year Messrs. Comstock, Cole & Co. had one hundred and twenty boys in their employ; but owing to the general embarrassment in business affairs, the contractors asked and obtained permission, from time to time, to diminish the number of boys and of working hours, till about the middle of March, when the contract was abandoned and the work ceased.

On the first of June, however, Mr. Benjamin E. Cole, by virtue of a new contract, resumed the business with sixty boys.

The average number of boys, employed during the year, by the above-named parties, is 67.5, and they have made 82,163 pairs of shoes.

In the shop where the boys' shoes are made and repaired, an average of six boys have made 1,106, and repaired 1,734 pairs of shoes.

In the stitching shop, 22.5 boys since the first of June, or an average of 7.5 for the year, have stitched 9,571 pairs of boots.

CHAIR-SEATING DEPARTMENT.

Here too the "pressure" has been seriously felt, and in this department more than one hundred boys on an average have been idle through the year.

The average number employed has been sixteen, and they have made 3,743 seats, and 339 backs.

FARM.

The Board of Agriculture have employed an average of fifty-one boys during the year.

SEWING AND KNITTING DEPARTMENT.

Here the average number of boys employed has been 145.5, and the table following shows the amount of work done in this department.

TABLE No. 13.

Amount of work in the Sewing and Knitting Department.

ARTICLES.	Made.	Repaired.
Jackets,	1,342	2,865
Pantaloons,	1,486	5,158
Vests,	96	—
Shirts,	842	3,960
Flannel shirts,	141	—
Aprons,	144	220
Caps,	823	170
Mittens,	49	—
Socks,	2,717	3,350
Suspenders,	1,245	—
Handkerchiefs,	118	—
Sheets and spreads,	415	345
Pillows,	24	131
Pillow cases,	277	—
Bed ticks,	94	64
Blankets,	—	66
Towels,	14	—
Holders,	12	—
Napkins,	96	—
Comforters,	265	359
Curtains,	8	—
Totals,	10,208	16,688

LAUNDRY.

The average number of boys employed here, has been thirty-five; and the number of articles washed and ironed, 154,515.

The difficulty of obtaining remunerative employment for all our boys during a great part of the year, has favored the prosecution of important improvements upon the premises, which, though we derive no present income from them, were very desirable if not absolutely necessary to the respectability of the appearance of the place; and some of them will eventually prove to be very profitable investments.

The grading in front of the building, which has been and is now in progress, commends itself to all whose knowledge of the place enables them to compare the present with the former appearance of the grounds.

The improvement of the grove west of the building, by removing the leaves, sticks, and loose stones, killing the underbrush, and smoothing the inequalities of surface, already more than half done, will when completed, make this one of the most beautiful features of the place.

The grading of the cemetery, construction of a receiving tomb, and of a graveled walk around the lot, furnishes a respectable place of burial, which was much needed.

The kitchen garden has received unusual attention, and its increased productiveness has well repaid the labor expended upon it.

The improvement of the Warren lot by subsoiling, which has employed eighty boys for the last two weeks, and will till cold weather, will be a paying investment.

The above-named improvements have given employment to one hundred and seven boys for the last four and a half months.

SCHOOLS.

TABLE No. 14,

Showing the number received into and discharged from each grade of Schools, during the past year.

	1st grade.	2d grade.	3d grade.	4th grade.	Total.
In School Sept. 30, 1857, .	147	138	168	160	613
Received directly, . . .	40	61	88	124	313
by promotion, .	118	168	117	—	403
Totals,	305	367	373	284	1,329
Left the Institution, . . .	153	104	67	45	369
by promotion, . . .	—	118	168	117	403
	—153	—222	—235	—162	—772
In School Sept. 30, 1858, .	152	145	138	122	557

Of the 557 now in School there are—

That read books in general,	. . . . .	435
in easy lessons,	. . . . .	84
in monosyllables,	. . . . .	35
in the alphabet,	. . . . .	3—557
That study mental arithmetic,	. . . . .	262
practical arithmetic,	. . . . .	192
namely, in the simple rules,	. . . . .	94
through simple rules,	. . . . .	42
compound numbers,	. . . . .	27
fractions,	. . . . .	25
book,	. . . . .	4
That study geography,	. . . . .	409
English grammar,	. . . . .	18
That write on paper,	. . . . .	500
on slates,	. . . . .	57—557

DAILY ROUTINE.

A. M.

- At 5 : 20—Watchman calls teachers and overseers to enter on duty with the boys.
- 5 : 30—Boys rise and make their beds.
- 5 : 40—Pass to the yards and wash-rooms, and remain till 6.
- 6 : 00—Devotions commence, and continue till 6 : 20.
- 6 : 20—Breakfast, which takes about twenty minutes ; after which they pass to the yards.
- 6 : 45—School commences, and continues till 8 : 45.
- 8 : 45—Boys go the yards, and remain till 9.
- 9 : 00—Go to work, and remain till 12, except a short recess according to the season.
- 12 : 00—Yards and wash-rooms, till 12 : 15.
- 12 : 15—Dinner till 12 : 40, and pass to yards, there to remain till 1 P. M.

P. M.

- 1 : 00—Work till 4.
- 4 : 00—Yards and wash-rooms till 4 : 20.
- 4 : 20—Supper till 4 : 40 ; after which remain in yards till 5.
- 5 : 00—School till 7.
- 7 : 00—Recess in yards till 7 : 20.
- 7 : 20—Devotions till 7 : 40.
- 7 : 40—Retire.

The above is the usual routine at this season of the year ; but is varied some at the different seasons, and according to circumstances.

THIRD DEPARTMENT.

This department, of twenty lodges and a workshop, where *bad* boys are kept from contact with those less depraved, continues to exert an influence for good.

At the beginning of the year the number of inmates was twelve for a short time, since which the number has scarcely exceeded four ; and from May to September, a period of nearly four months, the department was without an inmate.

The average number through the year was three ; the present number is two.

The strict and solitary discipline of this department has never yet failed to subdue the most refractory ; and it is not often that a boy needs to sojourn here a second time.

Much of the quiet and good order of the institution is probably due to the influence of this department.

DISCIPLINE.

The principles upon which the discipline is based are the same as stated in the last annual report, no change having been found necessary. The fabled (?) contest between the wind and the sun, furnishes the example and the text which I have steadily endeavored to emulate and illustrate. The wind might have effected some things more easily than the sun, but in divesting the traveller of his cloak, the sun had the advantage ; so it is much easier to touch the heart of a stubborn, wayward boy by kindness than by violence. But perpetual sunshine would fail to develop the fruits of the earth ; so the reformation of a boy may depend upon his having learned that "the way of the transgressor is hard."

RESULTS.

The results of the past year's labors are encouraging so far as we are able to judge.

Perhaps it would be difficult to find the same number of boys who are more obedient and give less trouble to those in whose care they are placed, than have the boys of this institution for

the past year. At one time for nearly three weeks, no boy out of nearly six hundred, was reported for any but the most trivial offences, notwithstanding two hundred of them were entirely destitute of employment; and the disposition generally manifested through the year has been quiet and orderly, such as always tends to make themselves and others happy.

An unusual number have been apprenticed and discharged this year, mostly we think to good places, where a large proportion of them remain and are doing well. Three hundred and twenty-six youth sent into community from this institution! What will be the result? This is a serious question, and demands serious consideration. I have considered it well, and I believe as large a proportion of them will do well, as of an equal number collected at random in city or country. Some of them, perhaps, will do badly—the same thing occurs *too frequently* in respectable families.

I appeal most earnestly to all Christians and philanthropists who have opportunity, to encourage and assist these boys, strengthen their good resolutions, point them the way to respectability, usefulness and happiness, and God will reward you.

For the moral and religious, and sanitary condition of the school, you are respectfully referred to the reports of the Chaplain and Physician.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Our warmest thanks are due to those friends who with such self-denying benevolence, at all seasons and in all kinds of weather, have devoted themselves to the labors of the Sabbath school.

Hon. Charles Sumner and Hon. C. L. Knapp have our thanks for valuable public documents.

To those publishers who have furnished us their papers gratuitously, among which are the "American Traveller," "Massachusetts Spy," "Ægis and Transcript," "Salem Register," "Atlas and Bee," "North Bridgewater Gazette," "Essex County Mercury," and "Youth's Companion;" to Rev. E. E. Hale, Rev. W. R. Alger, Rev. George Trask, Rev. P. L. Cushing, Rev. B. K. Peirce, and Rev. ———

Northrop, for interesting lectures to the boys; to Mrs. Henry Chapin, for a valuable present of books for the Boys' Library; to Samuel Munson, Esq., for a beautiful picture presented to the boys; to Hon. Simon Brown, John Ball, Esq., and Thomas Drew, Esq., for bundles of papers, we are under great obligations.

In conclusion, permit me to tender my thanks to the Board of Trustees for all their kindness and counsel; and to the officers associated with me for their industry and fidelity in performing the labors of the institution; and may God bless and prosper it and all connected with it.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. E. STARR,

Superintendent.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, Westborough, }
September 30, 1858. }

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*To the Trustees of the State Reform School, at Westborough,
Massachusetts:—*

GENTLEMEN,—Below will be found a tabular statement of the moral and social condition of the two hundred and seventy-one boys that have been committed to the State Reform School during the year now brought to a close.

	The past year.	Previously.	Total.
The number committed is,	271	2,138	2,409
Have lost both parents,	33	188	221
Have lost only father,	66	567	633
Have lost only mother,	45	330	375
Have a step-parent,	56	—	—
Both parents intemperate,	21	209	230
Only fathers intemperate,	90	645	735
Only mothers intemperate,	3	37	40
Parents' example otherwise pernicious, . .	80	1,070	1,150
Father and mother are separated, though living,	25	—	—
Fathers have no regular occupation, . .	40	711	751
Who have, or have had one or more members of their families in penal or reformatory institutions,	55	536	591
Were mostly idle previous to commitment,	169	1,603	1,772
Were untruthful previous to commitment,	235	1,982	2,217
Used profane language,	210	1,725	1,935
Used obscene language,	87	1,310	1,397
Were truants,	195	1,468	1,663
Were Sabbath breakers,	115	1,421	1,536
Never attended Sabbath school, . . .	33	359	392
Occasionally attended Sabbath school, .	178	1,427	1,605
Were acquainted with each other before admission,	208	1,610	1,818

TABLE—Continued.

	The past year.	Previously.	Total.
Had frequented places of questionable amusement,	112	1,140	1,252
Had slept out nights in stables, sheds, boxes, &c.,	89	973	1,062
Had used tobacco,	88	880	968
Had drank intoxicating liquors, many of them to excess,	26	534	560
Had been previously arrested once,	65	419	484
Had been previously arrested twice,	13	131	144
Had been previously arrested three times, or more,	4	141	145
Had been in prisons, houses of detention, or reformatory schools,	54	472	526

A careful examination of the above table will show you the unfortunate influences which have surrounded the great majority of the boys committed to the care of this institution. To know the defects in their previous education, will aid you much in determining what must be done to secure their reformation. A few of these boys need only the restraints and the deprivations of a detention here, in order to correct their truant and stubborn tendencies. They have been well instructed at home, but have not rightly appreciated the blessings of parental love and care. But with the mass of our boys the case is far different. Sixty-two per cent. of the two hundred and seventy-one boys committed to the institution during the past year have lost one or both parents, or their parents, if living, are separated. Forty-two per cent. of them have parents, one or both of whom are intemperate. Combining the two statements and making proper allowance for those included in both, it is safe to say, that eighty per cent. of these boys have lost one or both parents, have parents one or both of whom are intemperate, or have parents who do not live together. And in the twenty per cent. of families which remain, in many instances, there is some physical or moral defect which greatly impairs the power of the family government.

From reliable estimates which do not appear in the table, it is proper to state, that only about twenty-four per cent. of the

families from which our boys have come, had any thing that might be called family worship. In more than three-fourths of these families religious instruction is not known. Drinking, fighting, scolding, swearing and deceiving are much more common than the reading of God's word and prayer. And if we look again at the twenty-four per cent. of families where there is family worship and religious instruction, we shall in many of them find that only the mother conducts this worship and gives this instruction. The father, it may be, is not living; or, if living, has deserted his home; or he feels no interest in sacred things. The number of boys who have come from well regulated, Christian families is very small, and we are forced to the conclusion that the want of pious parents and Christian homes has filled our institution with inmates. Before they came here sixty-two per cent. of them were idlers; seventy-one per cent. of them were truants; seventy-seven per cent. were profane; eighty-six per cent. were untruthful; thirty per cent. of them had been previously arrested; eighty per cent. had either never been to a Sabbath school, or had been irregular in their attendance.

Forty per cent. of the boys that have entered this institution for the last sixteen months have Catholic parents, and the percentage of this class would be greatly increased if these parents were as willing to place their children here as Protestant parents usually are. The latter very frequently make complaint against their own children for the sake of placing them under the discipline and influence of the Reform School, while the former, quite as frequently endeavor by various expedients to keep their children away from this discipline and influence when complaint has been made against them by the officers of the law.

With these facts before you it is plain what kind of influence should be brought to bear upon the boys while here, and what kind of masters those should have who may be apprenticed. Previous to their coming here, the majority of these boys had but little respect for the laws of God or man. They have never been taught to reverence God's word or His day. Many of them are skeptical in regard to the importance of any religion, and in regard to the sincerity of those who labor to

spread abroad the blessings of Christianity. The word "pious" to them is a term of reproach. Many others think religion is a mere form of words and ceremonies, without heart and without life—a thing to be talked about, and not a thing to be lived. It is evident then, that those who are to be successful in the reformation of these misdirected lads, must be correct in both precept and example. Those alone who respect the authority of government and the Divine commands, can teach children their duty to God and to society. Those alone who revere and love the Word of God can make children feel that this Word is binding on them; a skeptical mind cannot cure a child of skepticism any better than Satan can cast out Satan. An irreligious person cannot be a successful teacher of piety; neither can an unbeliever teach a child what it is to have faith, else the blind might lead the blind. Those who are looked upon as patterns must not have the errors they are expected to eradicate from others. If they do, they will increase the difficulty they ought to cure. No one's influence in such a place as this can be neutral. It is either positively good, or certainly pernicious. He cannot be one thing and act out entirely another. The heart and the influences that flow from it are closely related. To be a good reformer one must believe reformation both needful and possible; he must feel the importance of the work, and believe it can be done. Allowing these principles to be correct, whether it should increase the expensiveness of the school or not, your purpose to bring to this work of reforming the wayward, those and those only, who have a high moral and religious character, and who have a heart for this peculiar work, must meet with the approbation of all who are interested in the success of this noble institution.

Whatever questions may be raised as to the wisdom of bringing so many delinquent lads into one family, these questions can have no application to those who are now intrusted with its management and government, since they had not the honor to be its founders; and it appears to be their whole duty to make the institution—such as has been committed to their care—as efficient as possible in accomplishing the reformation of the wayward. It cannot be expected that an institution like this, that is open to all classes of boys, from the truant to the burglar

and incendiary—if he happen to be under sixteen years of age—can reclaim all that are committed to its care ; but to those who desire the evidence, it is abundant, to show that the State Reform School is not a failure, but is doing the work its founders anticipated. Every year adds greatly to the number of those who are scattered in different parts of this Commonwealth and in other States, quietly learning their trades and earning a reputation for industry and honesty. If one boy who has been an inmate of this institution and left it, falls into crime and is arrested, it is heralded abroad, and the State Reform School is pronounced a failure, while the ninety and nine that went not astray are entirely overlooked. An unusually large number of boys have gone to their homes and to good places during the past year, and if some of them have disappointed us, many of them are doing well.

The customary means for the moral and religious improvement of the boys have been employed during the year—private conversation, morning and evening prayers in the school-rooms, accompanied with recitations and the reading of the Scriptures, every day, the Sabbath school and two preaching services on the Sabbath. For a few months past the boys have been brought into the chapel on Friday evening of each week for a rehearsal of the tunes to be sung on the Sabbath. This exercise is a pleasant one, and it contributes greatly to the improvement of our congregational singing. The singing by the boys on the Sabbath day is one of the most interesting as well as profitable exercises they can attend to ; and through the faithfulness of our music teacher, this part of their education has been well sustained. Those who were present in our chapel a few Sabbaths ago and heard the boys sing

“ Kind words can never die,”

will not easily forget how completely the feelings of the whole audience were subdued, while tears in many an eye revealed the deep emotions of the soul.

The Sabbath school has still been blessed by our faithful teachers from the village every Sabbath day, and some of them became so interested in the boys of their class that they came

to see them on other days for private conversation, and write notes of encouragement to them. Some of our boys have made great proficiency in committing to memory Scripture verses. One boy has, voluntarily, and without any expectation of reward, committed and recited six thousand and one hundred verses during the year. Many others have recited voluntarily from four hundred to nine hundred verses during a quarter when the required lesson was only eighty-four verses. A goodly number of our boys, so far as I can judge by conversation with them, by their attention to religious instruction and by their daily deportment, exhibit the true spirit of Christianity.

During the past year seven of our boys have died. Some of these deaths have been very sudden and sad. Others we think of with more of pleasure than sadness.

Samuel Thompson died on the 10th of June. When he entered the institution he was one of the coarsest and most uncouth of boys. He had no father, and his mother was a poor, ignorant woman, with no proper sense of her duties as a parent. The child literally ran wild in the streets, and was almost as perfect a specimen of a barbarian as can be found in the jungles of Africa. It was about as natural for him to steal and lie as it was to eat and breathe. He came here in August, 1854, and remained till he died, in June, of consumption. He was a feeble child with a broken constitution when he came here, and remained an invalid till the last. He was in the hospital full half of the four years he passed in the institution, some of the time comfortable, and some of the time sick a bed with a distressing cough. But I wish to speak more particularly of the moral change that came over the character of little Samuel while he was here. He was naturally a bright boy, but so little of his time was spent in school that he never made any great proficiency in his studies; but his religious faculties were greatly improved. This was seen more particularly during the last weeks of his sickness. It was his greatest pleasure to have any one sit by his bed and read the New Testament to him, and talk with him about heaven and Jesus. In the weakness of his body he sometimes spoke unkindly and did that which he had learned was wrong, but when he remembered his

fault deep sorrow filled his heart. He would weep and beg to be forgiven. Two or three days before he died he wanted we should sing to him, and we sang the hymn "I want to be an angel." He joined with us and sang the entire hymn with an interest that showed he understood the import of the words he repeated. After this he wanted to see a picture of Jesus. The day before his death his mind dwelt much upon the event before him, and he imagined Jesus had come and was waiting for him, and he would sometimes say, "I am coming," "I am coming." He talked with the boys as they came around his bed, urging them to be good boys, and wished me to tell them not to "take God's name in vain." He gave away to his intimate friends all his little playthings, and when his work was all done and his last word spoken, he "fell asleep."

The great improvement made upon the grounds of the cemetery the past summer will, I think, have a good influence upon the boys. The first burial that took place after the cemetery was completed, you will recollect, was when you were present. The very appropriate remarks made by one of your number, the close attention and solemn silence of nearly six hundred boys, the beautiful sun-light reflected from the tranquil lake and the funeral dirge sung as we departed, will serve to mark the hour when our humble, though beautiful cemetery was consecrated to its sacred purpose.

I can but refer to a beautiful picture, representing little Samuel as he said "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth," presented to the boys by Mr. —, of Portland, Maine. The gift was a very appropriate one, and furnished a theme for a sermon to the boys in which they appeared to be deeply interested. A half dozen pictures of a like character hung around the walls of the chapel would improve its appearance and benefit the boys.

For the last two years Mrs. Richardson, of Shrewsbury, has furnished the means for subscribing for a hundred copies of the "Youth's Penny Gazette," which have cost ten dollars a year. This has been a valued contribution to the boys' pleasure and profit.

Whatever progress the inmates of this institution have made in good morals is mainly due to the firm discipline so quietly

maintained over the boys by your kind and just Superintendent. When every thing in the government is harmonious and pleasant as it has been during the past year, the moral instrumentalities may be employed with their greatest efficiency. With gratitude to God for the mercies of the past year, let us humbly implore his blessing and help in the future, without which those who labor will labor in vain.

Respectfully submitted.

W. T. SLEEPER,

Chaplain.

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School:—

GENTLEMEN,—The following brief statements, it is hoped, will present to you with sufficient particularity, the sanitary condition of the institution during the past year.

During October, the first month of the last financial year, influenza prevailed among the boys very generally, but lasted only a short time. A case of disease of the brain terminated fatally during this month after a long illness. Two boys were confined to the hospital during several weeks of the winter and spring,—one with chronic pneumonia, and the other with scrofulous disease of an unusual character. Both were discharged and conveyed to their homes, in accordance with the earnest wishes of their friends, though still in a very feeble condition. With the above exceptions, the boys were unusually healthy, and free from pulmonary complaints, especially during nearly all the first half of the year.

Seven have died during the year of the following diseases. Two of disease of the brain; one very suddenly of disease of the heart; two of consumption; one of scarlatina; one of congestive lung fever following measles.

A number, between ninety and one hundred, were sick with measles during April and May; five had scarlatina during the same period. These diseases manifested about their average severity. It is a little remarkable that but seven distinct cases of scarlatina have ever occurred in this institution, while this is the third time of its appearance here. Disease in its quiescent state, in the cases of the two boys who died of consumption, was roused to action by the advent of measles, and hastened thereby to a fatal termination. These boys had begun to give encour-

aging hopes of recovery from long illness from diseased lungs, when taken with the measles. Since spring, but little sickness has occurred. A few boys, with acute rheumatism, accidental injuries, &c., have required confinement to the hospital for a time during the year.

Respectfully yours,

H. H. RISING.

WESTBOROUGH, October 1, 1858.

APPENDIX

TO THE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

EXTRACTS

FROM LETTERS FROM MASTERS AND OTHERS, CONCERNING BOYS WHO HAVE LEFT THE INSTITUTION.

T—, *Feb. 25, 1858.*

Having a boy apprenticed to me, and as he has been a good and faithful boy, and he as well as myself think he would be as well to let him manage for himself, therefore I ask to be released from my bonds by paying him the sum of thirty-five dollars, which will satisfy me and the boy.

I remains yours, &c., E.

G— R—, *March 7, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request, I write to you concerning the boy, W. W. W., I took from your school last year. I have found him to be a very trusty and truthful boy, which is a quality I highly prize. He is quick to business, and improves his leisure time in reading and useful studies. He has attended school two months this winter. His health has been very good for the most part of the time. Has been as well contented as could be expected, considering he is away from his friends and acquaintances. He experienced religion last May, and has lived as acceptably as could be expected, considering the low state of religion in this neighborhood.

Yours with respect, P.

N— S—, *March 11, 1858.*

Agreeable to the tenor of the indentures which I received with I. N., I will inform you that I have endeavored to use the boy in the same way I should if he had been my own. He has been perfectly contented. His health has been good, and his conduct generally has been such as to meet my approbation. He attends the Baptist meeting, about two miles distant; has been to school through the winter; has improved as well as I could expect. It gives him great satisfaction to help me to take care of my cows, calves and horses; and he does as well as I could expect.

Yours respectfully, B.

D—, *March 21, 1858.*

Sir:—I now take the opportunity to write to you concerning this young lad which you saw fit to place under my care. His health for the past year has been excellent, he being able to attend to all duties required of him; in a word, he is ready and willing to do his work; he does it cheerfully and without a murmur. He has been to school for the past three months; has had a good teacher, and I think he has improved very much. Henry, I think, will be able from present appearance, to enter upon the world and battle with its

many troubles at the end of the next two years; at least I hope he will, for I like the boy very much.

I remain respectfully yours, T.

C—, *April 12, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—G. E. thinks he will be a good boy; prizes the instruction he received in the institution very much; I think we shall not have any more trouble with him.

Yours truly, H.

W— M—, *May 21, 1858.*

It is now nearly three years since J. H. came to live with me; would say I have no complaint to make. Have got along quite as well as I expected. He is well and contented; grows very fast. From experience and observation, I am inclined to think very favorably of this institution for boys. They learn one very important lesson which is not learned in many families, that of subordination.

Respectfully yours, S.

A—, *May 23, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—I beg pardon for not being more prompt in writing to you as regards A. C. He is doing well and is contented, and takes pride in pleasing me. He takes an interest in all my business and is a good boy. His health is good, and has been ever since he has been with me.

Yours truly, S.

N—, *June 11, 1858.*

I write to inform you how S. H. is getting along. His health has been very good; he has behaved well, been industrious and obedient. He has attended to his studies in some good degree; attends church regularly, also the Sabbath school, and belongs to a temperance society. He is happy and contented with living with me, and I am perfectly satisfied with him; and I intend to give him a good education and try and make something of him.

Yours truly, A.

P—, *June 14, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—You may recollect that in the year 1856, the indentures of A. F., by which he was bound to Mr. G. of A., was transferred to me, and I have no cause to regret taking the charge. For something more than a year, A. has been in the employ of a gentleman in B., who is so well pleased with his services, that he has engaged him at a higher rate of compensation for a second year, which reaches beyond the period of his minority. While with Mr. G. he received the impression that he was to have his freedom in February of this year. I was not in B. at that time, but finding him still holding to the expectation and wish for it, I purpose to give him his time now, though I shall still take the same interest in him, and have the same oversight as before. I do not apprehend trouble from this step in any way—and consider the institution entirely free from any future responsibility concerning him.

Respectfully yours, L.

O—, *July 12, 1858.*

Sir:—Yours of 8th is duly received, and in reply I answer to the first of your interrogatories, that his improvement has been all that can be wished. Second, his conduct since he has been at my place, has been in a high degree respectful and obedient. Third, his health has been very good. Fourth, his schooling has been, with the exception of the last summer school, all the district school furnished, being from seven to fourteen weeks. Fifth, he has the privilege and is a very regular attendant on church service and Sabbath school.

Yours most respectfully, L.

B—, *July 12, 1858.*

Sir:—I take this opportunity of addressing you a few lines in relation to a boy, I. P., from your school. He has been with me six years, and I am very glad to say that his behavior has been creditable to himself and to your institution. He seems to be contented and takes a good interest in things upon the farm. He has been to school the last term and has made very good progress in his books.

Respectfully yours, W.

M—, *July 21, 1858.*

Respected Sir:—Nearly a year has passed since I took from the institution of which you are the Superintendent, my son. His health has been good, and his general deportment, as far as I have been capable of knowing, has showed a disposition to try to do well. G. sends love to acquaintances, and always speaks with respect of the officers, in talking with our family, as it is not known outside that he was ever in the institution. Please give my love to Mrs. S. and ladies; and may you be sustained in your many cares, is the wish of

S.

H—, *Sept. 6, 1858.*

I write these few lines to you, stating to you how A. C. is doing since he left your school. In the first place, he enjoys very good health, and is willing to do as he is directed. He is attentive to his religious duties. He has been to school for the space of three months last winter.

D.

F— CITY, *Sept. 9, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—I write to inform you that my son G. C. is at home, doing well. His habits are steady and industrious.

Yours truly, C.

S—, *Sept. 15, 1858.*

M. C., who is now a credit to the school, by his good conduct, industry, &c., is very anxious to have an engraving of the State Reform School to put up in his room, and I promised he should have one. Can you send me a copy of the Annual Report of 1856, I think it was, which had an engraving of the same? When I see you I will give some cheering information respecting this (once) poor, abused boy.

Truly thine, B.

T—, *Sept. 20, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—I now write to inform you that G. is progressing in the baking business, and bids fair to be a smarter man than I once expected of one so

wild as he was; and I must say it was the good and kind officers of the institution that made him what he is; and I thank God that there is such a place as the Reform School. And I now send a thousand thanks and good wishes to all of you for the good you have done my brother. I remain your ever true friend.

B.

W—, *Sept. 21, 1858.*

Sir:—I take this opportunity to inform you that the boy G. H. T., that I took from your school, has behaved very well, and I think, has improved in his studies. He has been at school since he has been with me; has been a good boy, and his health has been very good for the past year. He wishes to be remembered to all his friends at Westborough.

Yours with respect, T.

EXTRACTS

FROM LETTERS WRITTEN BY BOYS WHO HAVE LEFT THE INSTITUTION.

N— S—, *Dec. 21, 1857.*

Dear Mrs. Sleeper:—I hope you will forgive me for not writing to you sooner, but I will try to do better next time. You wanted to know how I liked my place. It is just such a place as you told me it would be. Mrs. P. is a very good woman to work for. I like to work on the farm very well, and it is quite pleasant to help take care of the cattle. You gave me some good advice in your letter, and I hope I shall remember it. I will try to at least.

From your friend, S.

S— F—, *Feb. 20, 1858.*

Mr. Hutchinson, Sir:—I hope you will excuse me for not writing before to one of my best friends at home, and one that I never can forget. I will not say that I have forgotten you, or that I have been too busy to send one word home to a place that made me a man. No, I must confess that I have been negligent and wrong in not writing you or Mr. C., and I hope you will forget that I have been negligent in not writing before. I hope when you receive this, that you will write to me, so as we can keep up our friendship. Since I have been here, I have acted as clerk, surveyor, and storekeeper. I have been in the best of health, and always in good spirits as usual; and am, at present, at my old business of surveying. Give my respects to Mr. and Mrs. C. and to Mr. T., and all the old boys that inquire after me.

Yours respectfully, K.

F—— R——, *March 28, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—It is with pleasure that I write these few lines to you, and hope that they will find you well as they leave me at present. I want you to write me soon and let me know how you get along. Tell Mrs. S. I do not forget the instructions that she gave me before I came away, and that I will always remember them. Give my love and respects to Mr. and Mrs. S. and also to W. I would like to have you tell all the boys that I am well and send my love to them. Mother and all the folks send their respects to you. Tell Mr. L. that I will write to him soon.

Yours truly, M.

S——, *April 19, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—I received your kind and encouraging letter of April 12th, the morning that Mr. S. was here. I suppose you remember that a year ago last winter we used to hold a prayer meeting over in Mr. S.'s study. There were some ten or fifteen of us used to assemble there to pray God to forgive us our sins, and to create in us new hearts. I prayed with all the earnestness that I could pray. After the meeting was dismissed I used to look back upon what I had done that evening towards becoming a Christian, and it used to look to me as if all my religion was pure hypocrisy. Now you may think I did not try to become a Christian; but I assure you I did. It used to seem almost as it does now; and that is that I thought my prayers were not heard. It used to seem as if there was something between me and God. I hope it will not continue so long. I hope you will pray for me when you pray, and for all others who are in the same predicament. Give my respects to all the officers, and your wife also.

Yours sincerely, S.

R——, *April.*

Dear Sir:—As we all enter upon the duties of another day may we all feel our dependence upon Him for life and health and all our blessings. It is by Him that we receive all our blessings and it is the whole duty of man to love and obey Him; but how many slight his word. I think I have been led to find that Saviour which is precious to my soul. I thought I must write a letter to you for your kindness to me while at the State Reform School, and may God in his infinite mercy, give you wisdom to direct those under your charge. I have been well since I left you. I am working constantly at shoemaking and carpentering. I think I shall go into a wholesale store before long. I think I shall be out there in August.

From your friend, S.

U. S. Sloop of War, Jamestown, GREYTOWN, *May 18, 1858.*

My Dear Friend:—You will doubtless be very much surprised on hearing from me in this part of the world. It is now almost five months since we left the States, and yet this is the only good opportunity that I have had of writing to you. You will probably want to know why I left home. I had several reasons for so doing. You know that business matters were very dull towards the latter part of Fall, so that it was impossible to obtain employment; and if you did succeed, it was hard to keep it. I have always had a great inclination to follow the sea from the time I went to Liverpool, so I came to the con-

clusion that I might as well try a cruise in a man of war. I did not lose my situation on account of any act of misdemeanor, but merely because I wished to. There are two young men, shipmates with me, who have been at Westborough, and I have heard them both say, they wished they were back there. I am very well pleased with the officers and the ship's crew, and can find no cause of complaint; but I must candidly confess, I never spent happier days, nor knew what real happiness was until I came to your school. You will please remember me to all my old friends, schoolmates and officers. Tell them they may criticize me for praising the school now that I have left it; but tell them they will never know the benefit of the good they are receiving until they come to leave it. Please write me as soon as you receive this letter.

I remain yours respectfully, G.

P—, June, 1858.

On reaching the institution I was heartily welcomed by the superintendent, chaplain, and all the officers who knew me. I was treated like a child returning to his happy home, and it did me good to believe that these officers were my *friends*, and felt an interest in my prosperity. When I was an inmate, I did not always, when compelled to submit to strict discipline and be just and attentive to my business, realize that those who were placed over me cared for my good; but now I see they labored for my good, and I begin to understand some of the blessings of the State Reform School. What was I before I entered that institution, and what should I have been but for its humane provisions? I was early left an orphan. During some of my younger years I was under bad influences, neglected, in want, tempted. In a moment of temptation I took what was not my own. This I repeated until arrested and sent to Westborough. I thought this my misfortune; now I know it to be my fortune. The regular habits acquired here of rising early in the morning and retiring at the proper time at night, of industry in the workshop, on the farm and in the school room, of going to the Sabbath school and committing to memory Bible verses, of attending to religious instruction, and of learning to control one's self, can scarcely fail to influence for good one who is not hardened in wickedness. Long may the State Reform School be sustained in its work of reforming the wayward. M.

S—, June 19, 1858.

Dear Sir:—It is with pleasure that I sit down to write these few lines to you I am well and hope that you are the same. I think that I am doing very well now; and I think it was for my interest that I was sent there. Give my respects to Mrs. S. and to all the officers. Tell Mr. H. I will write to him next.

From S.

G— R—, July 6, 1858.

Mrs. Starr:—This is a new country and does not look much like Boston but I think it is far better for a young man (or boy) in my situation, to live here than there. Here I am free from those haunts of vice and sinful amusements that are so prevalent there. In this neighborhood there are twelve or

fourteen families, and I am informed that there are Christians in every family; and I may stay here six months and not hear a single word of swearing. We have meetings and Sabbath schools every Sabbath, and plenty of good books to read; as there is a social library kept at the house where I live. Give my respects to Mr. S. Please write soon and oblige

Your humble friend, H.

A—, *July 26, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—It is with much pleasure I take this opportunity to write to you. I send my respects to all who are over the school and all the boys. I now work in the boot and shoe manufactory of P. W., Jr. I get one dollar and a quarter a day. I live within a mile and a half of my master's place, and have been to see him occasionally. Mr. Starr, please to tell the boys to stay at their place if they get one, for that makes the man. It is the State Reform School that saved me from ruin. I thank God and all the officers of your school.

From your pupil, W.

C—, *July 26, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—I am most happy to inform you that my brother I. is well and doing well. I. is doing very nicely; he has a good place and likes very much. They are very nice people; they think as much of him as their own child. He will write you soon and speak for himself.

I am yours very truly, B.

S—, *July, 1858.*

Dear Sir:—I hope you will excuse me for not writing before, as business is pretty lively, and I have hardly any time except evenings. I am with my uncle, learning the shoemaker's trade, as I suppose you know, and I am getting along very well. Since leaving the institution I have reflected on the importance of sending me to the State Reform School rather than let me have my own way. I might have met a worse fate. I can never repay the officers of the institution for the instruction they have given me and the kindness they have shown me, especially Mr. L. and Mr. H. Please give my best respects to the officers of the institution that I had dealings with, also to the members of the Debating Club; and as for you, Mr. S., I can say that I will ever be indebted to you for what you have done for me.

From your affectionate pupil, M.

C—, *Sept. 8, 1858.*

Dear Friend:—It is with the greatest pleasure that I now write to one who has been so kind to me. It gives me pleasure to look back on the last days I spent with you, and think how I tried to please you. I shall ever remember your generous kindness towards me; and if I am ever worthy of a friend, can say that I have a friend in you. Your kindness to me will never be effaced from my memory. Tell Mr. B. I will write to him.

Yours truly, L.

V—, *Sept. 27, 1858.*

Rev. Mr. Sleeper, My Dear Sir:—Yours of the 13th was duly received, and it gave me much pleasure to hear from one whom I always felt to be my friend; and believe me, dear sir, the friendships which I formed at Westborough will not easily be forgotten, although my neglecting to write to you may seem otherwise.

When I left Westborough I came to work for the Messrs. T. Bro's of this town, and have been with them ever since, with the exception of last winter, when they stopped on account of the "hard times." I was then engaged in teaching school in this town. I have been employed in the finishing department, and the overseer of that part is about to leave. I expect to obtain the situation. This is a prosperous business, but I do not feel that it will be mine for life. While at Westborough I thought of becoming a lawyer, but since I have been led to realize my own sinful condition and my need of a Divine Saviour, and have, as I humbly trust, cast myself upon Him who "bore our sins in his own body on the cross," I have resolved that if I ever get the education to become a lawyer, that education and those talents shall be employed in the more direct service of my Saviour. For this purpose I have lately had an offer from a friend of mine here, to enter Williams College, from which he has lately graduated, and is intending to become a missionary. But as there was too much depending upon others, I thought I would earn a right to an education by teaching and other honorable means, and devote my leisure to the improvement of my mind and heart. You spoke of my connection with the Sabbath school; I have an interesting class of six bright little fellows, and I believe most of them are quite serious. I regret that I had not time to write something to be read to the boys at the quarterly meeting; but I hope to be present at that which will be held in March. It will interest you to know that R., one of the Westborough boys, is quite a "Home Missionary" out west. He is a member of the Baptist church in Q., and has a class of ten scholars, which he has formed himself. Please give my respects to all inquiring friends. I will close by subscribing myself,

Yours with respect, M.

Names, Residence, Commissions and Retirement of the Trustees of the State Reform School, from its commencement to the present time.

Date of Commission.	Names.	Residence.	Date of Retirement.
1847.	Nahum Fisher, . . .	Westborough, . . .	1849.
1847.	John W. Graves, . . .	Lowell, . . .	1849.
1847.	Samuel Williston, . . .	Easthampton, . . .	1853.
1847.	Thomas A. Greene, . . .	New Bedford, . . .	Still in office.
1847.	Otis Adams, . . .	Grafton, . . .	1851.
1847.	George Denny,* . . .	Westborough, . . .	1851.
1847.	William T. Andrews, . . .	Boston, . . .	1851.
1849.	William Livingston,* . . .	Lowell, . . .	1851.
1849.	Russell A. Gibbs, . . .	Lanesborough, . . .	1853.
1851.	George H. Kuhn, . . .	Boston, . . .	1855.
1851.	J. B. French, . . .	Lowell, . . .	1854.
1851.	Daniel H. Forbes,* . . .	Westborough, . . .	1854.
1851.	Edward B. Bigelow, . . .	Grafton, . . .	1855.
1853.	J. H. W. Paige, . . .	New Bedford, . . .	1856.
1853.	Harvey Dodge, . . .	Sutton, . . .	1857.
1854.	G. Howland Shaw, . . .	Boston, . . .	1856.
1854.	Henry W. Cushman, . . .	Bernardston, . . .	Still in office.
1855.	Albert H. Nelson,* . . .	Woburn, . . .	1855.
1855.	John A. Fitch, . . .	Hopkinton, . . .	1858.
1855.	Parley Hammond, . . .	Worcester, . . .	Still in office.
1856.	Simon Brown, . . .	Concord, . . .	Still in office.
1856.	John A. Fayerweather, . . .	Westborough, . . .	Still in office.
1857.	Josiah H. Temple, . . .	Framingham, . . .	Still in office.
1858.	Judson S. Brown, . . .	Fitchburg, . . .	Still in office.

* Those marked thus (*) are deceased.

OFFICERS.

TRUSTEES.

PARLEY HAMMOND.
SIMON BROWN.
JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.
THOMAS A. GREENE.

JOSIAH H. TEMPLE.
HENRY W. CUSHMAN.
JUDSON S. BROWN.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

SIMON BROWN.
JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.

JOSIAH H. TEMPLE.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

THOMAS A. GREENE.
HENRY W. CUSHMAN.

JOSIAH H. TEMPLE.

SECRETARY.

THOMAS A. GREENE.

TREASURER.

PARLEY HAMMOND.

WILLIAM E. STARR, *Superintendent*.
ORVILLE K. HUTCHINSON, *Asst. Supt.*
THEODORE F. BRIGHAM, *Steward*.
REV. WILLIAM T. SLEEPER, *Chaplain*.

HENRY H. RISING, *Physician*.
MRS. W. E. STARR, *Matron*.
MRS. T. F. BRIGHAM, *Asst. Matron*.
MRS. W. T. SLEEPER, *Teacher of Music*.

TEACHERS.

LEVI A. DOANE.
HENRY A. ALLEN.
EVELINE A. HAMMOND.
SOPHRONIA M. BROWN.

DANIEL SULLIVAN.
HENRY TALCOTT.
DESIRE H. BRADFORD.
EUNICE E. MORSE.

OVERSEERS OF WORKSHOPS.

ERASTUS C. LOUD.
FREDERICK MORRISON.
ANTHONY DOUGHERTY.
DWIGHT PAIGE.

MALINDA PALMER.
KATE E. COWLES.
JANE M. BROWN.
HENRY A. COBB, *Overseer Third Dep't.*

JOHN BURNS, *Baker*.
MRS. D. PAIGE, *Overseer of Dining-Rooms*.
MARIA L. MORRISON, *Laundress*.

EBER O. BAILEY, *Carpenter and Engineer*.
MRS. E. O. BAILEY, *Nurse*.
B. C. HATHAWAY, *Carpenter*.

OVERSEERS OF DOMESTIC DEPARTMENT.

HENRY A. COBB.

WILLIAM STARR.

WATCHMEN.

GEORGE W. HODGKINS.

WILLIAM H. PAIGE.

ANDREW MORRISON, *Man of all Work*.

APR 25 '39 W.P.A.

